



PLANNING REF: 1554/22/TPO

DESCRIPTION: T231: Beech - crown height reduction by 2m. Due to poor condition and to allow Oak to take dominance. T232: Yew - crown height reduction by 2m. For garden management. T233 & 234: Sweet Chestnuts - crown height reduction by 3m. For garden management. T235 & T237: Beech - fell. For safety. T236: Pine - fell. For safety. T238: Sycamore - fell. For safety. T263: Sweet Chestnut - crown height reduction by 2m; lateral crown reduction on NE side by 1m. For garden management.

ADDRESS: Greystones, De Courcy Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8LQ

24 May 2022

LETTER OF OBJECTION FROM THE SOUTH HAMS SOCIETY

The South Hams Society interest

For the last 60 years, the South Hams Society has been stimulating public interest and care for the beauty, history and character of the South Hams. We encourage high standards of planning and architecture that respect the character of the area. We aim to secure the protection and improvement of the landscape, features of historic interest and public amenity and to promote the conservation of the South Hams as a living, working environment. We take the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty very seriously and work hard to increase people's knowledge and appreciation of our precious environment. We support the right development - in the right places - and oppose inappropriate development.

Our Objection

The South Hams Society wish to object to this application which proposes extensive work to protected trees.

The applicant's agent Dart Trees has submitted no arboricultural justification for the removal of surveyed trees T35, T36, T37 & T38.

The agent's statement that the trees require felling 'for safety' is not substantiated by any clear evidence to demonstrate that any of these trees are at significant risk of failure.

Similarly, the proposed crown height reduction of the other trees for the purpose of garden management is a matter of some concern to the Society. We question whether so much treework can be considered appropriate and in the best interests of responsible arboricultural management once their appreciable aesthetic contribution to public and varied amenities is taken in to account.

The subject trees are rightfully afforded protection by TPO 86 and contribute significant public visual amenity benefits to the wider sylvan setting of the area, as amplified by the open coastal aspect and multiple local medium and long range view receptors.

Charity No 263985

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The Society believes that the predominantly wooded landscape of this area deserves the highest level of sympathetic assessment and protection when deciding applications such as this, and that the tree cover should be continued and enhanced in perpetuity for the benefit of current and future generations alike.

In order to achieve this aspiration we believe that extensive treework, and specifically the removal of four mature trees as proposed must not be allowed to compromise the integrity, purpose and natural function of the designated TPO.

The Salcombe Neighbourhood Development Plan implicitly advocates the protection of all existing wooded areas visible from the estuary and the natural characteristics of North and South Sands valleys.

The same NDP also places great emphasis on maintaining wildlife corridors.

The Society fully endorses and supports this policy, and in our opinion this application threatens a level of erosion and degradation to the wooded landscape that conflicts with the protection objectives as set out in the NDP.

The South Hams Society respectfully requests refusal of this application.

For and on behalf of the South Hams Society.

Richard Howell,

Chairman.