Burnett, James

From: Simpkin, Rachael
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 4:44 PM
To: Planning (SMDC)
Subject: FW: SMD/2016/0170 - Highfield Stud Farm, Abbey Green Road, Leek

Hi,

For the R:drive and website pls.

Thks,

Rachael

From: Massey, Steven
Sent: 29 April 2016 17:52
To: Simpkin, Rachael
Subject: SMD/2016/0170 - Highfield Stud Farm, Abbey Green Road, Leek

Rachael

The proposed riding arena would have no impact on significant trees. There is a group of mature trees protected as G1 under TPO No. SM.138 situated immediately to the south of the existing communications mast, but these are well away from the application site and would not be affected.

The proposed arena would be sited behind an existing, if slightly gappy, hedgeline, and would be some 180m from Abbey Green Road where there is also a roadside field boundary hedge. Therefore the development would not have significant visual impact. Nevertheless, in the interests of minimising any visual impact and achieving an element of biodiversity benefit/enhancement, it would be appropriate to impose a condition requiring submission, approval, implementation and subsequent maintenance of a landscaping scheme essentially comprising gapping up the existing hedgeline along the northern side of the application site with suitable native hedge species and ideally the odd native hedgerow tree as well.

As this would be a very simply detailed landscaping requirement, it may be worth requesting the applicant to submit appropriate details as supplementary information in support of the current application (if planning permission is likely to be granted) in order to avoid the need for a subsequent submission of details application for just a few hedge infill plants. We could then impose a suitable implementation and maintenance condition in the event that planning permission is granted.

Steve Massey

Arboricultural Officer
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffordshire Moorlands ST13 6HQ
Tel: 01538 395788 Mob: 07545 423071

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