Burnett, James

From: Planning (SMDC)
Subject: FW: SMD/2016/0730 - Proctors Nursery, Leek Road, Endon

From: Massey, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 5:13 PM
To: Johnston, Christopher
Cc: Planning (SMDC)
Subject: SMD/2016/0730 - Proctors Nursery, Leek Road, Endon

Chris,

I have the following comments on this application:

The proposed new access would require the removal of a short stretch of existing young Hawthorn hedging, and a very small Cherry tree immediately behind. The application includes a "hedgerow statement" indicating that this hedge would not be considered "Important" if assessed against the relevant criteria in the Hedgerow Regulations (which is not itself a requirement in relation to a planning application but is nevertheless informative) due to it being less than 30 years old. Certainly the structure of the existing hedge, together with its largely single species make-up, supports this view.

Removal of the short stretch of the existing hedge as proposed would not have a significant adverse impact on the local environment, and compensation hedge planting across the existing site access, to be stopped up, is also proposed in the application. On this basis I would have no objection to this application. However, the new access would potentially open up views into the site towards existing and proposed new polytunnels, and it would be useful to seek further new planting of native species hedge and trees extending into the site and around the first corner of the new access track in order to provide additional screening, mitigation and enhancement.

I would request the following conditions in the event that planning permission is granted:

1. No trees, shrubs or hedgerows shall be removed other than those whose removal is directly required to accommodate the approved development, unless otherwise approved by the LPA. There shall be no removal of any trees, shrubs or hedgerows during the bird nesting season (March to August inclusive), unless otherwise agreed by the LPA and in this case only following careful inspection by a competent person to establish that such trees, shrubs or hedgerow are not in active use by nesting birds.

2. Before the commencement of development (including any site clearance, stripping, site establishment and creation of new access) a landscaping scheme shall be submitted to and approved by the LPA. Such a scheme shall in particular provide for the planting of new native species hedgerow (including standard hedgerow trees) across the existing access to be discontinued (as indicated in the application details), and around the turn-in radii of the new access hereby approved continuing around the first corner of the new track. The submitted landscaping scheme shall include full details of all new tree and shrub planting, giving specification for species, positions, planting sizes and numbers/densities of all new planting. The landscaping scheme so approved shall be fully implemented before the end of the first available dormant season (November to February inclusive) following completion of the development hereby approved. The trees and shrubs planted in accordance with this landscaping scheme shall be properly maintained for a period of 5 years following planting. Any plants which within this period are damaged, become diseased, die, are removed or otherwise fail to establish shall be replaced during the next suitable season.

Steve Massey

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