From:	Massey, Steven
To:	Arne Swithenbank
Cc:	Planning (SMDC)
Subject:	SMD/2017/0254 - Hollinscroft House, Hollinscroft Court, Upper Tean
Date:	09 June 2017 17:54:16

Arne

Our GIS data and aerial photos/Google Streetview images show a large mature Beech tree situated at the rear (north-west) boundary of the application site also being the side boundary to 34 Uttoxeter Road, and protected as T56 under TPO No. SM.18.

Unfortunately, however, this tree has recently had to be felled for genuine safety reasons having been found to be infected with *Meripilus giganteus*, a notable root decay fungus likely to lead to uprooting failure; the tree's crown was also showing significant, associated decline in condition with spares foliage and dieback throughout.

This Beech tree is therefore no longer present to serve as any constraint to, or be affected by, the proposed development.

A replacement for the now-removed Beech is due to be planted in the front garden of the adjacent property 34 Uttoxeter Road. However, approval and subsequent construction/occupation of the proposed new dwelling would not prevent or restrict such replacement planting.

The proposed access to the new dwelling, together with new access to the existing dwelling Hollinscroft House, would require the partial removal of existing conifer hedging to the south-east boundary of the site, to which I would have no objection although this should be carried out with due regard to the potential presence of nesting birds, their nests and eggs/chicks. Other than this, the remaining existing hedging to the Hollinscroft Court and Uttoxeter Road boundaries should be retained to ensure a suitable soft boundary and established screening/setting for the proposed new dwelling.

I have no objection to this application, but would request that the following condition be imposed 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.

Steve Massey

Arboricultural Officer / Operational Services

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and High Peak Borough Council

Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffordshire Moorlands ST13 6HQ
Tel: Mob:

E-mail:

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