

APPENDIX 5



BRIDGEMERE UK plc

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Mr I Lorman
Tree Officer
South Cambridgeshire District Council
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge CB23 6EA

20th March 2014

Our Ref: VWF.JM.Hauxton
Your Ref: C/11/17/47/01-11/13/SC 2013



Dear Mr Lorman

**Tree Preservation Order Number 11/13/SC
Hauxton Mill, Hauxton, Cambridge**

Further to my letter of objection dated 19th December 2013 to Rosalind Richardson, I understand that you are now dealing with this matter in relation to the above Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at the Hauxton Mill site and I am writing to confirm our continued objection to the TPO.

As you are aware, representatives of Bridgemere (including Bridgemere's tree consultants RSK) had a meeting with representatives of the Council on site on 11th March 2014 to discuss the TPO and at this meeting a new drawing and schedule was provided. This was not submitted to Bridgemere's team in advance of the meeting and has also given Bridgemere's team little time in which to respond.

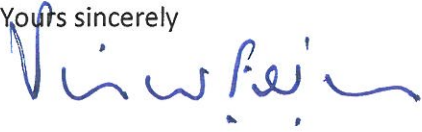
Whilst Bridgemere accepts that the Council has acted on several of the objections previously raised, particularly the modification of the TPO to replace the areas with individual trees and groups of trees, we still feel that some objections have not been dealt with. Subsequent visits by the Council and RSK have sought to clarify some of the outstanding issues regarding the TPO at the site and I enclose Bridgemere's response to the schedule issued by Ian Lorman. As you will see from the response there are a number of outstanding queries relating to the amenity value of specific trees and groups of trees.

Bridgemere would also maintain its questioning of the expediency of certain aspects of the TPO, as the river corridors ecology management plan required as part of the Section 106 Agreement can be considered to represent sound arboricultural management where it applies. Bridgemere accepts that the TPO is not a hindrance to the actions contained within management plan, but considers the extra level of protection unnecessary and offering little to

Cont/...

no public benefit in the instances of these trees.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vincent W Fairclough', with a stylized flourish at the end.

VINCENT W FAIRCLOUGH Solicitor
Legal Director

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Encs

cc: Tim Noden, Planning Manager, Harrow Estates plc
Tom Smith, RSK
Nigel Blazeby, Development Control Manager, SCDC
Jane Green, Head of New Communities, SCDC

Hauxton Mill TPO 11/13/SC
Site visit of Ian Lorman 14th March 2014
Trees / group numbers based on original proposed modified plan & schedule

Tree / group no RSK recommend remove from TPO	Comments	TPO (Y/N)	RSK Comments
T1	Decent quality mature Ash	Y	Agreed
G2		Y?	Previous comments appear not to have been addressed by the tree officer? Previous comments stand, poor form and condition, limited amenity value
G3 (exclude Sycamore)	Sycamore securing bank – no significant structural defects	Y	Whilst the group order concerns the trees as a cohesive unit and not as individuals, we still maintain that Sycamore offers no amenity value. Furthermore, bank stabilisation would require assessment by structural engineer, and lack of structural defects is not a case for a TPO.
T4		Y?	Previous comments appear not to have been addressed by the tree officer? Previous comments stand.
G5	Biodiversity value as part of groups ('special or other factors')	Y	Biodiversity/conservation value alone is not sufficient for TPO
G6	Biodiversity value as part of groups ('special or other factors')	Y	Biodiversity/conservation value alone is not sufficient for TPO
G7	No significant contribution	N	agreed
G8	Contribution to group value	Y	Acknowledgement needed on requirement of significant thinning
G9	Contribution to group value (acknowledge needs significant selection thinning)	Y	
G10	Intrinsic beauty (storm damage requires significant remedial work) & bat boxes present	Y	Agreed in principle, but suspect that remedial work may significantly impair the value of the storm damaged tree.
G11	Contributes to amenity. Retaining bank – requires pollarding	Y	agreed

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G12	Poor quality, no significant contribution	N	agreed
G13	Reasonable quality specimen trees with space to develop	Y	agreed
G14	Reasonable quality tree screen (also add 1 x Willow)	Y	Agreed, although willow not added to species list.
G15	Reasonable quality tree screen (next to PROW)	Y	agreed
G16	Very large, significant trees (acknowledge needs significant selection thinning)	Y	No clarification on numbers issue highlighted in previous comments – also applies to G17 and G18
G19	Cannot be included as the area is NOT on the existing provisional TPO	N	agreed
T5	Moribund tree (very low vigour / significant dead wood / suppression)	N	agreed
T13	Veteran tree	Y	Agreed, although would not classify tree as veteran.
Other recommendations: T6 through T11 (Willows) to incorporate as a Group			T6 is stated in RSK report and on previous TPO as an Ash – clarification required