

From: MacArthur, Fergus <Fergus.MacArthur@ambervalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 February 2023 10:14
To: Thompson, Neil <Neil.Thompson@ambervalley.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: AVA/2022/0200 : Land south of Ashbourne Road, Cowers Lane

Hi Neil,

I visited site to investigate this further. I am concerned about the number of category B trees proposed for removal, some of which are protected by Tree Preservation Order 467. The removal of 9 category B trees (desirable for retention), more than two per dwelling, along with two other category C and category U trees is not unacceptable. Tree T15 is only just below a diameter that would classify this as a veteran tree and, although I accept the categorisation within the report, there will be a significant loss of biodiversity within the site if this is removed.

I understand from previous applications that there should be a separation between the plot boundaries and the Duffield frith hedgerow on the southern boundary to ensure there is no detrimental effect on this important landscape feature that will be afforded protection under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. This does not appear to be the case on the layout plan.

Although I understand that off-site biodiversity enhancements have been proposed to compensate for losses within the site I believe the proposed number of units requires the loss of too many category B trees. Even with off-site enhancements it will take many years to compensate for these losses.

I'm happy to discuss this with the applicant/agent if it would be helpful.

Kind regards,
Fergus

Fergus MacArthur | Trees and Conservation Officer

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