

**From:** Samuel Palmer  
**Sent:** 23 Aug 2021 10:50:52 +0000  
**To:** Mills, Penelope  
**Cc:** Richard Sykes-Popham  
**Subject:** DC/21/0315/FUL - Little Court - Haverhill Road - Landscape Comments Response  
**Attachments:** ZA921 - PL - SK - 300 - P07 - SW STRATEGY.PDF

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Hi Penny

I hope you had a restful time off.

We have set out below our response on landscape matters and the subsequent queries raised, which we said we would prepare when we met just before your annual leave.

The response set out below incorporates feedback from our Landscape Consultants (David Jarvis Associates), our Arboricultural Consultant (LSDP), and our Drainage Consultant (Cannon). Input has also been provided by the client team and architects (JBA).

The response relates to landscape comments received from Place Services dated the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and additional queries relating to revised drainage proposals issued via email on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

We have split out our response below picking up on the main comments received.

#### *The Eastern Boundary and impact on landscape features*

The hedge line at the sites eastern boundary has not been identified as an Important Hedgerow under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 and has been categorised as a 'B category mixed native hedge' under the Arboricultural assessment and as 'H1' a species poor hedge under the Green Willow Associates' Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report.

As the width of the hedge is limited, we have worked on the basis that the stems / trunks are broadly centred to the hedge outlines. Should they be more to the East the impact of trimming from the inside would be further reduced.

The intent to trim back the inner side and retain as much of the hedge as possible is considered to be the best approach alongside the proposals. There may be some temporary impact on the remaining hedge line but the detailed landscape proposals will identify mitigation measures to address any potential long term impact to retain this feature. Measures such as gapping up with new plants would be appropriate but there may also be scope to translocate some of the existing hedge stock for this purpose.

In our view the impact on the proposed hedgerow at the eastern site boundary can be satisfactorily addressed with new planting and/or translocation of the existing hedgerow. This is something that can be effectively achieved on the site.

It is not therefore considered necessary to review the proposed site layout which may shift the issue to another, more sensitive, part of the site.

Retention of this feature in close proximity to the building will help provide natural security and physical separation to the Public Footpath.

The landscape management plan will identify seasonal operations to ensure the long term retention and health of this feature and indeed all landscape features that are proposed to be retained.

### *Attenuation Crates*

The attenuation crates within the car parking area have been shifted west, away from the eastern boundary, and hedgerow. Please see the attached plan (reference: SK-300 Revision P07) showing the revised location. This will remove any potential impact of their location relative to landscape features. This plan supersedes the previous drainage strategy plan.

The blue arrows shown on the plan represent an overland flow arrow showing where water would tend to spill (in the event of a serious storm). These do not represent proposed pipe locations that would require excavation. There are purely for reference purposes.

The proposed bund around the top of the infiltration basis will be a low bund rather than an area of excavation. The bund will not have an impact on the RPA of the retained trees in this location. On the basis the bund will be fairly narrow, it will not cause any issues in terms of compression to the soil around the identified trees in that location.

### *Species*

It is acknowledged and agreed that it is good practice to give preference to native trees and shrubs. Whilst the use of native and naturalised species will be prioritised (where possible), other species will be required to help provide a robust landscape scheme that adequately addresses the very specific safety and sensory stimulation (visual, acoustic, aromatic etc) requirements associated with mental health and wellbeing within schemes of the nature that is being proposed.

If you could pass the drainage plan on to Hannah Purkis that would be much appreciated. As noted above, the strategy is unchanged (as agreed previously) we have just sought to remove any potential impact on landscape features by adjusting the location of the crates very slightly.

As queries please do let me know.

Kind regards

Sam

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