

THE OLD POST OFFICE DORKING ROAD TADWORTH SURREY KT20 5SA

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Arboricultural Implications Report Proposed development at Rickman's Green Village Phase 2 Rickman's Lane Plaistow

November 2022

Ref. SJA air 21273-02

SUMMARY

S1. On the basis of our assessment, we conclude that the arboricultural impact of this scheme is of low magnitude, as defined according to the categories set out in *Table 1* of this report.

S2. There are no incursions into the adjacent ancient woodlands, or into the associated 15m buffer zones; and consequently, the proposals will not result in any loss of ancient woodland, will avoid any potentially harmful effects on the woodland, and will comply with current UK Planning and development guidance.

S3. Our assessment of the impacts of the proposals on the existing trees concludes that no veteran or ancient trees, and no trees of high landscape or biodiversity value are to be removed. The proposed removal of individuals and hedgerows will represent a minor alteration of the main arboricultural features of the site, but only a very minor alteration to the overall arboricultural character of the site. The site wide landscaping plans incorporate extensive tree planting that will result in a significant increase in tree numbers and readily mitigate the loss of trees. As such, the proposals will not have a significant adverse impact on the arboricultural character and appearance of the local landscape.

S4. As no trees are to be pruned, and the development parcels provide sufficient space to accommodate retained canopies, there is no reason that dwellings would be sited within 6m of the extents of the canopies of trees to be retained. There will therefore be no impediment to a detailed scheme being able to provide adequate working space for construction close to trees, and a reasonable margin of clearance for future growth.

S5. The incursions into the Root Protection Areas of trees to be retained are likely to be avoidable or within tolerable limits, and subject to implementation of the measures recommended on the Tree Protection Plan and set out at **Appendix 1**, no significant or long-term damage to their root systems or rooting environments will occur. The incursion into the RPA of oak no. 29 can be readily designed out at a detailed stage.

S6. As the proposed development will not result in the removal of trees that maintain the green infrastructure of the local area and which contribute to the distinctive local landscape character, it complies with Policies 48 and 52 of the Chichester District Council Local Plan: Key Policies 2014-2029.