

Memorandum

From: **JOHN VERNON.**

To: DEBBIE BATES. / RICHARD WRIGHT.

Subject: TREE WORKS, THE RECTORY DEVT. SITE, NEWBOLD VERDON.

Your Reference: ATTACHED FILE. **My reference: RA/NV/033/08.**

Date: 7 March, 2008

In response to the continuing concerns being expressed over the possible removal of further mature trees at the above location, I have met with the owner of the site Mr. Underwood, and with him present, have once again visually inspected the trees which have been identified as candidates for removal by his Aboricultural consultancy.
Mr. Underwood would prefer to retain the trees designated for felling, but understandably needs to be assured of their stability.

The trees concerned are as listed on the tree survey report.
No. 12. Scots Pine. No. 17 Sycamore. and No. 19 Beech. and No 7 Ash. A further tree,No. 1 Poplar was not listed as protected and has already been felled.
Following my site visit this morning, I wish to comment as follows.

No. 7 the Ash is insignificant and should be retained for the time being.

No 12 the Scots pine could be retained following works to deal with any decay present within the crown being successfully dealt with by a competent arborist.

No. 17. Sycamore. This tree is relatively disease free, and the decay at base level is currently contained. Although the crown is sparse and the tree is competing with invasive Holly, it is growing in an area away from the development process. The canopy contributes to the general visual amenity, and I believe the request to fell the tree should be withdrawn.

No.19 Beech. A massive mature tree as are the others on site. There are structural problems due to the way the tree has developed, but no sign at present of structural failure. The cavity at 4m. is not extensive, and there are no signs of fungal infection. The tree makes a substantial contribution to the visual amenity of the area. It is worth considering some crown reduction to relieve the burden of weight on the structural limbs as an alternative to felling.

Conclusion.- Suspend the felling of further trees for the time being, and implement remedial works when carrying out maintenance to the other trees on site as applied for within the current application.

J.V.