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Legal Services
Telford & Wrekin Council
Addenbrooke House
Ironmasters Way
Telford
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Your Ref: TPO140

Our Ref: Roden/TPO/1

24 April 2015

Dear Sirs

Town & Country Planning Act 1990

The Town & Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012

Roden Nurseries Roden Lane Roden Telford TF6 6BP – Tree Preservation Order 2015.

We acknowledge receipt of the above Order which took effect on a provisional basis on 27 March 2015.

On behalf of our client, we wish to lodge objection to the Order on the grounds that trees T1-T7 comprise relatively young specimens that are currently of little intrinsic significance. Moreover, trees T4-T7 are set back and are not particularly prominent in the street scene. Indeed, the Tree Report submitted with application TWC/2015/0220 describes all of the trees as: *“trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality”*.

On an associated issue, our client could have removed the trees prior to submission of the application, but as a nurseryman who actually planted the trees, he preferred to allow them to remain to provide every opportunity to retain some or most of the trees within a future development layout.

Our client was therefore affronted by the Tree Officer's comments on the planning application that suggested the applicant did not care about the trees and that the submitted layout paid no regard to them.

We would respectfully point out that 'Layout' is reserved matter and the submitted layout is purely indicative and reflects the pre-application guidance provided by the Case Officer who suggested that urban form and layout might override arboricultural considerations.

Our client has prepared an alternative indicative layout to show how most of the trees could be retained and incorporated into a scheme, subject to planning officer support.

Our client considers that he has been caught between 'a rock (the case officer) and a hard place' (the tree officer) and we would have preferred a mature and constructive discussion about the key issues rather than this measure of a TPO. Indeed, we hope that such a discussion can shortly take place to ensure a consistent approach by the Local Planning Authority, rather than this rather confrontational/adversarial approach that appears to have been adopted by the tree officer.

We therefore request that the Order not be confirmed at this time.

Please acknowledge receipt of this objection and confirm that it has been 'duly made'.

Yours faithfully

Andy Williams

A J Williams Dip TP, MRTPI
Director