

From: Irene Fletcher <Irene.Fletcher@midsussex.gov.uk>
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To: "Stuart Malcolm" <Stuart.Malcolm@midsussex.gov.uk>
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Categories: Red Category

Hi Stuart,

In general, the proposals are acceptable.

However, there is a proliferation of magnolias, and birches. Whilst the birches are native, the magnolias are not and provide little biodiversity value. Whilst I understand that the birches have been selected also for size and space reasons, they are relatively short lived and generally do not thrive within new developments.

Prunus 'Accolade' and 'Amanogowa' are grafted and fairly short lived. Non grafted native selections, including smaller trees such as hawthorn and hazel and slower growing specimens, such as yew are possible.

Whilst I appreciate that there is a wish for ornamentals in tighter, residential areas, could there be some more variation ? Trees such as arbutus, Ligustrum lucidum, Arbutus etc, could be considered to provide a resistant and biodiversity rich palette. Amelanchiers are too dominant in terms of numbers also.

Could some oaks also be required in relevant areas, please.

In summary, a greater mix of tree species within both native and ornamental selections is required and greater tree longevity should be built in.

I concur with the comments of the Place Services landscape consultant regarding the Sambucas and tree tie maintenance. Otherwise, maintenance/planting details are acceptable.

Thanks,

Irene

Irene Fletcher
Tree Officer
Development Management
Mid Sussex District Council
(Mon – Thurs)
www.midsussex.gov.uk