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20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Rachel,

**DM/25/2626 - 42 HURST ROAD, HASSOCKS**

We write in response to the consultation comments from your Assistant Tree Officer, reviewing the Arboricultural Report submitted in support of the above planning application. We welcome the opportunity to provide further clarification and reassurance in relation to tree protection and long-term impacts, in accordance with BS5837:2012 and Policy DP37 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

This letter should be read in conjunction with the accompanying consolidated Arboricultural Addendum, which expands upon the Arboricultural Report prepared by Arborsense and addresses each of the matters raised.

**Level of detail within the Arboricultural Report**

We acknowledge that the originally submitted Arboricultural Report prepared by Arborsense was concise and that certain statements would benefit from further explanation. The enclosed addendum expands upon the assessment of retained trees, clarifies construction methodologies, and provides additional detail regarding tree protection during construction and over the lifetime of the development.

### Protection of principal retained trees (T1 Beech and T5 Oak)

T1 (Beech) and T5 (Oak) are both identified as mature Category B trees of high amenity value. While limited incursion into their Root Protection Areas (RPAs) is unavoidable, this remains within the tolerances set out in BS5837:2012.

To address both construction-stage impacts and longer-term pressure arising from the use of the development, the following safeguards are proposed:

- Installation of BS5837-compliant protective fencing prior to commencement of works;
- Use of permanent no-dig, cellular confinement systems within RPA areas subject to access or loading;
- No excavation, level changes, or service runs within RPAs;
- Arboricultural supervision by Arborsense at key stages of construction;
- A post-construction monitoring and maintenance regime to ensure continued tree health.

These measures ensure that T1 and T5 will not suffer unacceptable harm either during construction or through future use of the site.

### Neighbouring trees and boundary vegetation

Boundary hedging and trees within neighbouring gardens (including those at Nos. 40 and 44 Hurst Road) are predominantly Category C specimens of limited arboricultural quality. These trees lie outside areas subject to excavation and will not be directly impacted by the proposed works.

Temporary protective fencing will be installed during construction to prevent accidental damage, encroachment, or material storage along boundaries

## Conclusion

With the additional clarification and safeguards now set out in this letter and the accompanying Arboricultural Addendum prepared by Arborsense, we respectfully submit that the proposal demonstrates full compliance with BS5837:2012 and Policy DP37. All retained trees, including those on neighbouring land, will be adequately protected during construction and over the lifetime of the development.

We trust that this consolidated response addresses your concerns fully and provides the reassurance required to withdraw the arboricultural objection.

Yours sincerely,



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