



28 March 2019

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Dear All,

Thank you to Ian for publishing the letter of consultation published on the Council website and dated 22nd March 2019. Please note in the first instance that to our knowledge no notifications of this publication have been sent to local residents at all - as you know quite a few of us are local residents..

Our preliminary comments are as follows:-

Specifically there are no details as to which trees are to be cut back, except 2019/00610/DET

Condition 47 Tree Replacement Plan. This seems to only be in relation to two trees, one each side of the gate on Stevenage Road at the north end, which will have to be removed to widen the gate. We would like to see more detail in the mitigation statement in relation to this so that everyone is fully cognisant of what has been accepted through the planning stage and what exactly is covered.

We have been given an exact list of the trees and shrubs at present against the FFC wall, given to us by the Council, please let us have an assurance of what the replacements will be.

One concern we have already raised and would like to see properly addressed is the size and age of the replacement trees when the time comes for reinstatement of the trees removed. We would like to see the species agreed and set out as well as the maturity. We have raised this because at the moment there is a screen of trees and shrubs against and covering the FFC wall - whilst this may not be the smartest, it has been established for some years and is of a certain size. Saplings and very young plants would be insufficient to be called reinstatement in our opinion.

A further concern relates to the construction compound.

2019/00530/DET Condition 5 Temporary Fencing, describes its size etc but makes no mention of the additional pedestrian gate at the "new" north end of the path alongside Fielders meadow. This was agreed with us and the FFC and their contractors in January.

If this is not built the north end of Fielders Meadow will be a cull-de-sac, inconvenient to those walking/ cycling through the park, and potentially dangerous for those who might feel trapped in the park.

Finally, another point agreed upon with FFC and the contractors and not mentioned in the mitigation is that the pipe providing water for dogs was to be moved so that there would be water accessible on the outside of the compound for dogs for the duration of the works. We also had a discussion about this pipe being improved and providing for the provision of water for both human park users as well as for dogs..

We look forward to hearing from you,

Kind Regards,

Rowena Vaughan and Melanie Healy

Co Chair
Friends of Bishop's Park

You will note we have not addressed in this letter any "wish list" as to how the monies received in due course by the Council are to be spent as we have already discussed this. We are keen to be involved in these decisions too and look forward to being asked for our input.