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Brentwood, Pendleton Road, Wiswell, Clitheroe, BB79BZ.

Proposed New Access off Pendleton Road.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

25th March 2023

Introduction.

Proposals have been submitted to RVBC in respect of a new 6m wide access off Pendleton Road.

Trees exist to either side of the front boundary either within or in close proximity to the hedgerow – two items to the southern boundary and one to the north. Consideration is to be given to these in respect of the proposals although only the largest item to the south was measured, this having the greater root protection area and therefore potential impact.

It is understood that as a result of a recent traffic survey, the original position of the access was found to be unsatisfactory and this has now been relocated approximately in the centre of the frontage.

The trees were inspected for the purposes of this assessment on the 24th March and the following observations noted.

Considerations.

The trees were found to be in acceptable condition with no obvious major defects. They were considered as mature with reasonable vitality. All items had ivy growing up the trunks which restricted inspections.

The diameters of the two largest trees in closest proximity to the proposals were measured;

T1 750mm equating to a root protection area of 9m radius

T2 575mm equating to a root protection area of 6.9m radius

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When these root protection areas are plotted on the site plan and / or measured on site it is evident that the new access can be formed without impacting on the expected root zones.

It may be suggested that due to the proximity of the highway, the root protection areas will be biased into the site and open soils. Whilst such a consideration is reasonable guidance within Tree Roots in the Built Environment (Department for Communities and Local Government –Research for Amenity Trees No.8) notes in Chapter 11.1 that: *“While it is probable that roots from adjacent trees will grow underneath roads, they are very unlikely to have penetrated the road base, due to the severely compacted nature of the medium (DETR, 1999).”*

From such guidance and my own personal experience, the presence of roots beneath a roadway could be reasonably expected. It is agreed that they would not exist in the sub base – as confirmed by the above quote but, they could develop in underlying soils.

Regardless, the works required to form the access only entail the removal of a section of the small “bund” / “mound” underneath the hedge and then the provision of a suitable surfacing system for soft ground similar to that discussed in the Arboricultural Association Guidance Note 12 - The Use of Cellular Confinement Systems Near Trees: A Guide to Good Practice

In respect of the minor regrading works the presence of tree roots within the comparatively poor hedgerow are likely to be minimal but, by these excavations being on a radial line to the trees, will avoid any possibility of major root severance even should material exist.

No pruning, crown lifting or similar works to any retained trees are necessary to implement the proposals.

Tree Protection.

This is a small scale project being undertaken by the householder. There is no requirement for any machinery or indeed access. All works will be undertaken manually and even should deliveries to the site be made, these will be deposited at the new entrance and carried or barrowed in as required.

Any requirement for protective fencing is therefore unnecessary.

Conclusions.

From the foregoing comments and observations, it is evident that the proposed new access will have no significant impacts on retained trees and the surfacing system proposed would retain a desirable soil structure should any tree roots exist or expand into the area.

The project is very low key / small scale and it can be reasonably accepted that no tree protection fencing is necessary in this instance.

It is reasonable to conclude therefore that there are no arboricultural reasons why approval should not be forthcoming.

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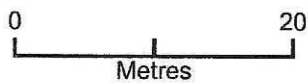
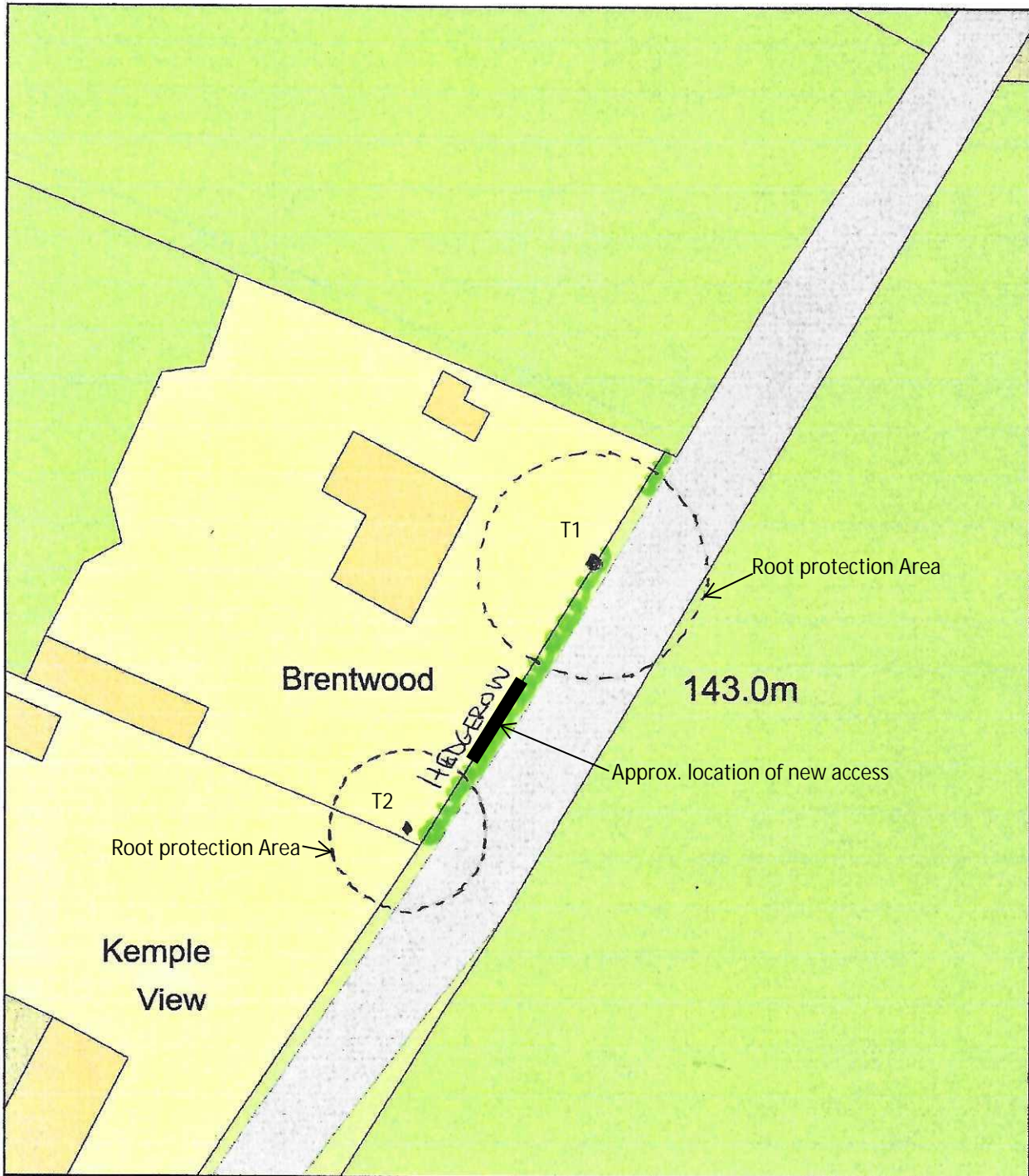
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Brentwood Site Plan

EXISTING



Plan Produced for: David Higgins

Date Produced: 17 Jan 2023

Plan Reference Number: TQRQM23017104920562

Scale: 1:500 @ A4