

**EASTERN AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**  
**UPDATE REPORT**

**Item No:** 4(1)      **Application No:** 201/21/1046      **Page No.** 5-58

**Site:** Land at Hasenbach, The Bevers, Mortimer Common, Reading, RG7 3SP

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**Planning Officer Presenting:** Jon Thomas, Tree Officer

**Member Presenting:** N/A

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**Parish Representative speaking:** Cllr. Danusia Morsley  
Vice Chairman of Stratfield Mortimer PC – via Zoom

**Objector(s) speaking:** Mr V Hayter – in person  
Mr M Morris-Ashton – in person

**Supporter(s) speaking:** N/A

**Applicant/Agent speaking:** N/A

**Ward Members:** Cllr Graham Bridgman  
Cllr Royce Longton  
Cllr Geoff Mayes

**1. Additional Consultation Responses**

<b>Public representations:</b>	None
<b>Parish Council:</b>	<p>Our records show that the Parish Council were notified on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 with no response received.</p> <p>The Parish has subsequently emailed to say:</p> <p>Please be advised that the [Parish] Council has not had enough notice to take this to our Planning Committee's forthcoming meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March, but our comments on the proposed Tree Protection Order are based on what has been observed by members of the Planning Committee, but not formally discussed, and reflect our original comments made under delegated powers on TPO 201/21/0999 earlier in 2020:</p> <p><b>TPO NUMBER: 201/21/1046</b> <b>DETAILS: T1 – Pine</b> <b>SITE: Land at Hasenbach, The Bevers, Mortimer Common,</b></p>

### **Reading RG7 3SP**

*The pine tree appears to be healthy and contributes to the overall green aspect of the village. The tree is tall enough that if it fell it could damage one of two houses but we see no reason to cut it down - we would lose all the tall trees in the village centre on that basis. It has a very slight lean to the south at the base but a couple of metres up is quite vertical. The roots have caused some lifting of the concrete drive of the property it is planted in but this is not surprising as the concrete goes right up to the trunk on one side. The removal of the concrete and replacement with a gravel drive would be better for the tree and the residents. It was noted that the tarmac lane immediately outside the property showed no signs of visible lifting of the surface.*

*The lowest branch on the south side and grows at an unusually vertical angle; if a tree specialist advised removing that one branch flush with the trunk to balance the tree, the Parish Council would have no objection.*

*In our opinion the tree should not be cut down and given what has been said should be protected with a TPO.*

## **2. Updated Site Information**

On the basis of measurement of the stem of the tree taken on the morning of the Committee Site Meeting on 02/03/2022, the CAVAT valuation has been updated to £37,545.

## **3. Updated Recommendation**

The recommendation remains as set out in the agenda committee report.