



"Ivan Button, Crown Consultants" <ivan@crowntrees.co.uk>  
To: Jamie Le Gallez <jamie@souparchitects.com>
RE: 292_No.4 The Hexagon

23 August 2016 14:52

1 Attachment, 6 KB

Dear Jamie

Further to our recent telephone conversation, I understand that the existing access into the above site is composed of 550mm made ground / aggregate with a CBR of 4% and that this is capped with 150mm concrete raft.

The adjacent trees' roots are likely to be a lot more prolific in areas of soft landscaping rather than beneath the road surface where conditions are more inhospitable due to the reduced oxygen levels, reduced water infiltration and increased compaction. That trees root preferentially in this way is well documented and is recognised within BS 5837.

Ground protection measures are routinely installed on building sites to protect tree roots that are growing in soft compressible ground. The purpose of such measures is to spread the load of vehicles over a wide area. Suitable measures include road plates, aggregate with-or-without a cellular confinement system, and a concrete raft (also recognised within BS5837). If the existing road were to be retained, there would be no need for additional ground protection measures as there already exists 150mm of load spreading concrete plus 550mm of load spreading aggregate which will be more than adequate.

If the access road became damaged during construction and required a new surface, the existing surface may simply be removed and replaced without any damage to roots. Even if the existing aggregate required replacement, it is unlikely that roots will be growing through such an inhospitable medium.

I trust that the above is clear. However, please feel free to invite the local authority planning officer or tree officer to discuss any technical issues or concerns directly with me.

Kind regards

Ivan Button

Ivan Button N.C.H. (Arb), FDS(c) (Arb), BSc. (Hons), P.G.C.E. M. Arbor A.
Principal Consultant, Director



Crown House, 1 Newton Terrace, Sowerby Bridge, Halifax, HX6 3PS. Tel 01422 316660. www.crowntrees.co.uk
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