

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/22/2051/0F1

Location: Whitehaven Golf Club, Red Lonning, Whitehaven

Officer: Christie M Burns

Date: 18 September 2023

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

1. Phased alterations to existing 18 hole golf course over a period of 15 years, including alterations to ground levels through importation of inert material and soils, the creation of additional planting areas, the replacement of existing planting areas and alterations to drainage; and,
2. The alteration of the existing site access and adjacent layby.

DISCUSSION

Following our site visit, we have the following comment/observation to make on the proposed development.

Many of the trees growing on the site are in the early-mature to mature age class and in the normal to moderate vitality health class.

The landscape proposal is to plant several areas with new trees following the completion of the new earthworks. The Hesketh Ecology Preliminary Ecological Appraisal states: 'No whole-sale felling of any existing areas of woodland is proposed. It may be necessary to fell and prune back edges of the existing woodland blocks so as to accommodate landscaping and proposed woodland planting, but there will be no clear felling of blocks and no removal of large mature trees.'

The application does not contain a tree protection plan or tree protection barrier specification to prevent the proposed landscaping works damaging the existing woodland areas.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend:

- attach a pre-commencement condition to any permission requesting the submission of an Arboricultural Method Statement, showing the location and design of all tree protection barriers.
- attach a condition to any planning permission requiring the planting detailed in the application to be implemented in full.