



Good morning Mike and Ian
After reviewing the feedback from Alistair I have the following thoughts and comments:

I don't feel that woodland W1 is of a concern because the root protection area is well away from the proposed development. These are tall trees however the new dwellings will be part way up the slope therefore raised, and that the W1 trees are on the north side of these houses.
Tree T5 has a history of being pruned to keep its size manageable, therefore its RPA can be considered as disproportionately large (due to continued incremental stem growth), furthermore there is a history of altered ground and ground disturbance where the original dwelling was located. Because of these factors I don't feel that the proximity of development to T5 is an issue.

The main area of conflict I feel from Alistair is the changes in ground levels near to T1, predominantly from excavations needed to site dwelling No2. He rightly points out that soil moisture levels may change around the tree which can have a negative effect. The path of least resistance for this issue is to remove the need for excavations required to level out ground for plot 2. A viable alternative is use of screw pile foundations, however I don't know how much that method will alter designs and costs.

Alistair's other point was about the driveway crossing the RPA of T1. It can be demonstrated that using cellular confinement systems (aka geocells) the driveway can cross without detriment to roots. It should be pointed out to the planners that a driveway historically passed under the tree close to the stem. Crown lifting will be needed above the finished driveway, however my report recommended that construction vehicles avoid the tree altogether and that crown lifting is just for height for residents' cars and delivery vans. I feel that the driveway and minor crown lifting wouldn't be so much of a sticking point if the ground level changes issue for plot 2 could be resolved.

For tree T1 I can produce a shade diagram to show where the shade cast from T1 will affect the site. It is likely that this will show dwelling No2 affected by shade a lot more than the other two houses. Please let me know [@Ian Wrigley](#) if you'd like me to proceed with this diagram.

I hope this has been helpful.

Kind regards

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