Appendix 3(a) - Email from Objector dated 26 July 2021

From: Ben Smith

Sent: 26 July 2021 09:45

To: Andy Rogers < Andy.Rogers@NFDC.gov.uk >

Cc: Hannah Chalmers < Hannah.Chalmers@NFDC.GOV.UK >; alan.alvey@fawley-pc.gov.uk

Subject: TPO/0002/21 - Blackwell Forest, Chapel Lane, Langley, Blackfield, Southampton, SO45 1YX

(SMI3398/1)

Dear Mr Rogers,

Many thanks for your email.

I do not intend to appear at the hearing because my submission contains all the relevant information. I have slightly changed the main letter named "Tree Preservation Order – TPO.0002.21" to include a place for each of the Councillors to sign to confirm that they have read the submission. I would be very grateful if you would ask each of the Councillors to sign the document so there is no need for me to attend the meeting to read it out to them.

I also attach a letter from the New Forest Land Advice Service which was sent to the NFDC as part of my original postal submission, which I would be grateful if you could also provide to the Councillors in advance of the meeting.

Lastly, a representative from the Council visited Blackwell Forest yesterday and recommended that I include a short paragraph about my ultimate vision for the woodland and request support from the council in order to achieve it. I have drafted the following summary and would be grateful if this email could be provided to the Councillors so that they are aware of what I am trying to achieve for the local community:

- I am trying to maximise the biodiversity of the woodland. The removal of the rhododendron was the first step to achieving that. The next step is to ensure the woodland is a balanced mix of native trees as recommended by government research to protect it for the long term. The natural regeneration from the predominant common oak could leave the woodland susceptible to disease and climate change in the future which is the natural consequence of the TPO as it is drafted.
- My ultimate vision for the future is to work with local schools and the cubs to open the woodland up to the children so that they have somewhere authentic, within walking distance from their homes, to learn about the New Forest and all its wonderful wildlife.
- I am hoping that the woodland will be a first class example of what a well-managed and biodiverse woodland should look like. My ambition is that the children will use what they have learned when attending the woodland school to protect the environment when they grow up.

Kind regards,

Ben Smith

Associate Solicitor

Residential Conveyancing Department



Address Heathcote House, 37 St Thomas Street, Lymington, SO41 9NE



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