

APPLICATION NUMBER: 25/1006

PROPOSAL: 25/0052 FOR RETENTION OF ENGINEERING WORKS AND USE OF LAND AS AN OPEN STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITY

SITE: Llanwern Works Queensway Llanwern Newport NP19 4QZ

APPLICATION TYPE: Conditions

CONDITION 02 (PROPOSED PLANTING) AND 03 (ADDITIONAL PLANTING)

Planting site layout plan and a Landscape Management and Maintenance Plan have been submitted.

I would advise consultation with the ecologist consultee as the landscape is driven by ecology mitigation and enhancement rather than softening/screening of views, in addition the wider sensitive ecology landscape of the Gwent Levels SSSI and connectivity with water features needs to be reviewed.

RSK provided the approved indicative planting and management. The submitted information is by Des Cairns Architecture and there are a number of issues and queries:

1. There is no mix for the native hedge.
2. The use of feathered trees at 2m centres within the native hedge is too close.
3. Trees in the native hedge include the use of hornbeam and yew for which there is no locally native context that I am aware of.
4. Certain species were recommended by RSK due to the alkaline ground conditions, but this is not carried through in the proposal for 9 or 10 hornbeam or field maple.
5. The seed mix should be reviewed by the ecologist consultee.
6. I assume 7 Sorbus on the bund would be rowan, but this is not clear.
7. Trees are spaced formally rather than in informal groups which would be expected.
8. There is no outline specification for site preparation. The ground conditions require work to enable planting to take.