

Supporting Statement
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The County Council wishes to extend and improve the access to the upper car park at Sywell Country Park. This work is required in order to increase capacity to meet current and anticipated future demand and remove the need for visitors to park outside of the park on the highways verge as is occurring at present.

External parking is currently damaging the both the verge, the road edge and is compromising road safety, causing occasional obstruction to a neighbouring residential property and encouraging periods of increased vehicle crime.

The Council has plans to further increase the use of the park through improvements to facilities. This will increase the need to provide additional parking on site.

Plans have been drawn up by NCC highways to improve the access at entrance to the car park to the standards required by NCC Highways (SCP civil plan attached) and to extend the car park in an appropriate fashion.

The entrance splay will be widened and visibility improved considerably from what is provided at present. A traffic count along Washbrook Lane conducted by NCC Highways/MGWSP in 2010 has shown the 85th percentile of vehicles to be travelling at 35mph along this stretch of Washbrook Lane and adequate visibility will be provided by the improved entrance splay suitable for a 40mph speed.

The profile of the slope from entrance splay to the access road will be improved by lessening the gradient.

The current access road is comprised of an unbound stone surface and suffers from pot-holing. This road will be re-engineered, properly edged and surfaced with tarmac.

The car park will be extended by surfacing a strip of adjoining unused ground. This piece of land does not have any significant wildlife, landscape or amenity value and comprises of rough vegetation – coarse grasses, nettles, thistles and bramble etc.

Additional surface run off will be minimal given the limited scale of the bound tarmac surfaces and the use of road planings and unbound aggregates for the surfacing of the parking bays themselves. This will minimise run off from these areas by providing a porous surface for natural drainage. The profiling of these surfaces will enable any additional surface run off to be comfortably accommodated by the natural soakaway properties provided by the strip of naturally vegetated land separating the car park from adjoining property.

The one neighbouring resident has been consulted on the proposals and has indicated his support for this proposal as a means of encouraging visitors to park in the car park and not on the road verges and edges where they can cause a nuisance and obstruction. The location of the extended parking is mindful of maintaining the screen to his garden.

END

METHOD STATEMENT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW LOOSE BOUND PARKING AREA SYWELL COUNTRY PARK

The aim of this Method Statement is to lay down a method of working which will minimise the impact on the nearby mature trees. These trees are identified on the general arrangement drawing attached.

This Method Statement should be read in conjunction with drawing attached which shows the general arrangement for the proposed works.

Primarily there are eight trees in question; all are well established Pine Trees and located approximately 6m away from the works

This statement is very much a guide and any roots identified during works will have to be inspected by MGWSP's Environmental Manager and any remedial works agreed.

As such our contractor will adhere to the NJUG guidelines with specific note to the site specific items below.

- The grass strip between the trees and current track will need to be preserved.
- The new 'road' should only be replaced like for like, where the current track is.
- Any material removal will need to be carried out by hand.
- Avoid any damage to tree roots. Remember: Damage to roots over 25mm can be fatal to a tree.
- Most roots are found in the top 600mm soil of which the affected area will be built up minimizing any excavation at this point.
- Compaction around the tree root zone will be kept to a minimum.
- Materials, plant and equipment are not to be stored on the tree root zone.
- Materials, plant and equipment are not to be leant against the tree trunk.

Prior to any excavation works, the eight mature trees are to be protected with temporary fencing which will be erected around the full canopy perimeter ensuring no plant or materials will affect the trees structural roots.

Once all the above is in place excavation can now begin. All the excavation must be carried out by hand in the affected zone of the trees and on no account must a mechanical excavator be used.

Great care must be taken not to sever any root with a diameter of greater than 25mm. These roots must be carefully protected during the construction works and where they are left exposed they must be covered with wet Hessian for the duration of the exposure. The Hessian must be kept damp at all times.

Tree Schedule – See Drawing number S868/10/003 for location details

Tree Number	Tree Type	Any works under tree canopy or near root hair zone
T1	Established Pine Tree	No
T2	Established Pine Tree	No
T3	Established Pine Tree	No
T4	Established Pine Tree	No
T5	Established Pine Tree	No
T6	Established Pine Tree	No
T7	Established Pine Tree	No
T8	Established Pine Tree	No

Fig – Tree root layout

