

Tenterden Green Space Steering Group

Notes on meeting with Taylor Wimpey: November 2nd 2018

Present: Roy Taylor: Production Manager, Taylor Wimpey
Richard Masefield: TGS
Siggi Nepp: TDRA
Tony Russell: Resident
Daniel Russell: Resident

Green landscaping on the Tent 1A development

Residents Tony and Daniel Russell, with support from Siggi Nepp of the TDRA, repeated concerns over the infilling of the pond near the oak tree to the west-centre of the site, with particular regard to the wildlife it sustained.

Mr Taylor stated that the oak tree had been incorrectly surveyed for the original plan, and would have been removed to allow for anticipated housing, but for representations by residents and the TDRA. On the amended plan, which retains the oak, one house has been removed and others re-aligned to extend the green area around the tree. In its original state, the pond was clogged with deep mud, fallen trees and ironwork, and has been filled to stabilise the ground before a new pond can be created. Mr Taylor confirmed that all work was overseen by RSK Ecological Services and undertaken after breeding ducks and moorhens had vacated.

In discussions concerning the new pond, Mr Taylor confirmed that it would be naturally constructed with a clay base. In discussion it was agreed that it would be better left open rather than fenced or hedged off from residents. Following suggestions that it should be large enough to re-establish waterfowl, Richard pointed out that young chicks or ducklings would be at risk from traffic, and it was agreed that the waterfowl and other wildlife would be better accommodated in the chain of naturalised ponds to be created along the southern perimeter of the development. Plans for these new ponds, already viewed by with members of the Kent Wildlife Trust, are to include extensive planting with indigenous vegetation. Mr Taylor confirmed that no standing water would be contaminated by herbicides used to clear the pond margins for seeding.

Existing drains along the boundary of the Russells' property are to be restored to allow surface water to drain through the site.

Mr Taylor undertook to supply new plans of the work in hand, and to arrange for further consultation when landscaping of the southern watercourse/wild area was ready to begin. He was thanked for his courtesy and promptness in addressing residents' concerns.

Richard is to arrange a further site meeting through Ciaran Downey, Housing Manager of Dandara, to review plans for the Bells lane/three-fields path wood adjacent to the pond green on the Taylor Wimpey site.