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10th September 2013

Dear Alex

Re: Hill Croft, Cawthorne Lane, Darton, Barnsely.

Further to our telephone conversation regarding the unapproved excavation on site I have looked at the photographs provided of the works carried out and would like to make the following comments;

The photographs show the line of the excavation which has been carried out in accordance with my suggested position shown on the drawing 120918TPP. Although it was suggested in my original report that an exploratory trench should be dug along the proposed line of the retaining wall to establish the degree of root development within this area the photographs provided of the excavated line indicate that there are, as suspected, no structural roots within this area. In fact I have been led to believe that only one root was encountered and this was very small. It is also unclear if this is an Ash root or if it originated from one of the other trees along the boundary. I can conclude therefore that no structural damage has been caused to the tree roots by the recent excavation.

In addition and as stated in my report, the degree of encroachment into the tree's RPA by the excavation is slight and as a result any root mass lost (fibrous, non-structural roots) is unlikely to result in any significant impact on the viability of the tree in the long-term. The original tree constraints plan (TCP) shows the RPA to be biased within the grounds of the neighbouring property due to the existing changes in ground levels within the site and along the boundary with the road. Therefore the vast majority of the RPA has been left untouched.

In conclusion I believe that the excavation carried out, although not approved at the time, has had no significant impact on the neighbouring Ash tree.

I trust the above information is sufficient although if you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards



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Arboricultural Consultant