

Planning Application DC/17/04052 Land north of Waldingfield Road

- 1) Bee orchids (Ophrys Apifera?) in the orchard north east of Waldingfield Road.

This is a protected species under Section 13 of the countryside act 1981



These orchids were photographed in the orchard in 2016 and details sent to David Pizzy at Babergh DC, He asked to be told when they were flowering last year, which we did, but got no further reaction from him. Shortly after that the owners of the orchard had all the grass areas mown! Since they aren't picking the fruit or looking after the trees one wonders why? Is it correct that all this area should be ploughed up and built all over?

- 2) Potential right of way

I attach a copy of a letter from Mrs Diane Martin, who owned 21 St Marys Close from when it was built in 1985 until 2015. She now lives in Australia. We are in the process of getting her to send the information in her letter in the form of an affidavit as this is needed by the Land Registry to register our interest.

To our knowledge the access to the peripheral track that goes all round the orchard has never been challenged nor have any of us been told to desist from entering the orchard.

From this letter it would appear that several owners of houses abutting the orchard have used this track for a variety of purposes over 33 years including picking hedgerow fruits, (wild damsons and bullaces) walking dogs, playing cricket and generally enjoying the countryside.

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To Whom it May Concern:

I lived at 21 St Marys Close from 8th March 1985 to 16th July 2015. I can categorically confirm we as a family used our gate into the orchard at least once, usually more, times, every day that we lived there. Mostly going for walks with our dogs or children.

Our neighbours in number 20 moved in a few weeks after us, also made a gate into the orchard and used it on a daily basis, as did all of the families that lived in number 20.

We both even cut the grass in the orchard behind our houses (I also grew flowers under the hedge) we used that area mostly for playing cricket.

Yours faithfully

Diane Martin

3. Access to Power Cables

The following email sent by me on April 23rd to UK Power Networks in order to make them aware of the outline planning application went to consents@ukpowernetworks.co.uk

“There is currently a planning application for the building of new houses in the orchard abutting the backs of these houses. If the plan is passed then new houses would be built with their rear gardens up against the rear gardens of the St Marys Close houses.

The existing houses in St Marys Close, have at the bottom of their gardens an overhead power line and a buried gas main. Servicing of the power cables is currently carried out from a farm track running around the perimeter of the orchard, and this track would also be the most accessible way to service the gas main and is how they are serviced at the moment. This track would disappear under the rear gardens of the planned new houses and so would straightforward access to your power cables. We are required in our deeds to grant you access to your assets, and certainly getting any machinery in to the area would cause major disruption and would be quite costly for you. Our interest to avoid such upheaval is my reason for writing. The proposed new houses could easily be built further northeast in the orchard without loss of density and thus retain the farm track for access. This would provide you and the houses in St Marys Close with much simpler and cheaper access.

Currently the internal layout is reserved in the planning application and there may well be time to encourage the developer to take your and our wishes into account. The relevant planning application is **DC/17/04052 Land North of Waldingfield Road. (Babergh District Council)**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Mauder

01787 829142”

I would be grateful if you could make councillors aware of these three issues in time for the planning meeting to decide on the above application.

Many thanks

Tom and Maren Mauder