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## PRESS RELEASE

Press Release re tree fellings at Chiltley Lane and Bohunt Manor

The Parish Council's Planning Committee was concerned at the front page report in the Liphook Herald dated the 18 October 2013, regarding the committees' discussion about tree felling at its September meeting.

The Committee did not agree to the planting of 1.8 metre oak trees in lieu of 100 year old trees, subject to a tree preservation order { TPO}, that the developer cut down nearly 3 years ago on the Bohunt Manor Estate. Instead the committee requested, on professional advice, that the trees should be replaced by trees which were at least 10 years old and which would be subject to a 10 year management plan.

The Committee also felt that there should still be a prosecution for the original unauthorised destruction of trees subject to a TPO. This is particularly so bearing in mind the continued destruction of trees and ancient hedgerows elsewhere on the estate.

The Committee was also concerned at the lack of protection for the trees and ancient hedgerows in Chiltley Lane and the failure of enforcement of planning conditions and regulations at both locations.

It is incorrect that the Parish Council has repeatedly refused offers to meet with senior officers of EHDC in order to address this problem. In fact it has been the Parish Council which has initiated attempts to deal with this issue. The Parish Council is very pleased that there will shortly be a meeting with senior officers of EHDC and looks forward to a constructive discussion of what might be done.

The Parish Council takes these issues very seriously and is encouraged by the positive response from the District Council, and especially its statement that it is to consider a more general policy on the issue of TPOs.

**Peter Stanley** 

Parish Clerk