

From: Merriman, Steve
Sent: 09 May 2013 09:31
To: James, Howard
Subject: RE: Maple Ridge - Proposed car park layout

Hi Howard, following our site visit I can confirm the following.

We hand dug 6 trial holes (2 per tree) in a line on your proposed kerb line. The 6 holes were 1m x 1m x 600mm deep. The trial holes ranged from 5m to 4m from the base of the trees in question.

In each hole fibrous roots were found in the top 200mm of soil and small roots 10mm-15mm in diameter were also found at levels from 250mm to 450mm. In holes 1 and 2 3x small roots were found, in holes 3 and 4 2x small roots were found, in hole 5 3x small roots were found and in hole 6 1x small root was found. In no holes were any roots over 15mm in diameter found.

The level of top soil ranged from 450mm to 600mm deep with a chalk sub soil.

The 3 trees in question (2x Acer and 1x Beech) are mature trees that will draw water from the back gardens of the neighbouring properties as well as from the grassed area in the school.

It is my opinion that the loss of part of the grassed area in the school to form additional car parking will have only a minimal effect on the trees ability to draw water and subsequent health. It is also my opinion that as no tree roots over 15mm were found in the trial holes, this indicates that the kerb trenching works are unlikely to be of major detriment to the trees health or stability.

If you require any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Regards
Steve.