

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/26/2227/TPO

Location: LAND TO THE NORTH OF HOLE HOUSE FARM, WHICHAM.

Officer: Demi Crawford

Date: 14 September 2026

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

HEDGEROW LENGTH	PROPOSED WORKS
10m	Removal of approximately 10m of hedgerow to facilitate the entry of plant required to carry out essential refurbishment work upon the steel tower structures which form the AF route 132kv overhead powerline
REASON	
'Removal of c. 10m of hedgerow is sought to facilitate the entry of plant required to carry out essential refurbishment work upon the steel tower structures which form the AF Route 132kV overhead powerline. Condition based assessments upon the AF055 and AF056 tower have determined that the structures are at the end of its functional life and in need of urgent upgrading. Currently no access option which will allow plant and machinery to reach the tower bases currently exists.'	

DISCUSSION



Photo showing the location of the 10m section of hedgerow proposed for removal.

The hedge is inconsistent in height and density.

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Archaeology and History

The archaeological and historic importance of a hedgerow involves investigating if the hedgerow:

- marks a pre-1850 parish or township boundary;
- incorporates an archaeological site;
- marks the boundary of, or is associated with, a pre-1600 estate or manor; or
- forms an integral part of a pre-parliamentary enclosure field system.

We have not assessed the historic importance of the hedgerow.

Wildlife and Landscape

The wildlife and landscape importance of a hedgerow considers the number of plant species within a section of hedgerow along with insect and animal populations. The Regulations give details of rare plants, insects and animals.

The table below shows our evaluation of the hedgerow shown on the application plan

Feature		
Bank or Wall	No	• 7x woody species; OR • 6x woody species + 3x features; OR • 5x woody species + 4x features; OR • highway + 4x woody species + 2x features
Gaps less than 10%	Yes	
Standard trees	No	
Ditch	No	
Parallel hedge	No	
Footpath/Bridleway	No	
Connection points	2	
Woody species	2	
Average ground flora species	-	
Hedge classified as 'important'	No	

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the criteria detailed in the landscape section of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, the 10m hedgerow specified in the application does not fulfil the criteria of an 'important' hedgerow.

Inform the applicant they can carry out the work in the notification.