

4 Oak Tree Close

Cantley

Norfolk

NR13 3GZ

24/07/2019

Broadland District Council - Appeals Panel

Ref: Formal Objection on TPO 2019 No.6 (for the 5 trees that are at the boundary of 4 Oak Tree Close, Cantley). Additional Information after the Broadland / Parish Councils meeting at above address on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019)

FAO - Appeals Panel

### 1. Additional information

Visit held by Broadland Council Office (Mark Symonds) and three Parish Council Reps, from the visit I had the understanding that no recent survey of the trees had been performed by Broadland Council and Mr Symonds report was being referred to from November 2012 and challenge the following on the Tree Officers respond:

#### 1.1 Tree Notes - Note: Tree reference numbers (my reference numbers) start for Field end (North) of boundary

- L1 - The roots on one side have been cut (photo and report in Arboricultural Report for R.Holmes, also print photo attached to this letter) and ground lowered (year 2003/2004), I am concerned that the council have not fully assessed this and using the statement in the respond "the 5 Lime Trees have not suffered and catastrophic failures in the time" in approximately 12 years, I feel does not deem these as not dangerous, this does not mean they will remain safe and potentially become less stable with the taller and fuller growth. There have been other large trees in 33 Church Road garden that have blown over in this time.
- L2 - This is the one reported in Arboricultural Report for R.Holmes as a Health and Safety issue, Mr Symonds report in November 2012 did not identify this with Ivy making visual assessment difficult. This tree is weaker form and size than the others. Unclear if the council has considered the size and form of this tree recently (Mr Symonds report stated it was of poor form in November 2012).
- L3 - Regular dead wood falls from this tree onto my garden, at present there is a 4" diameter branch dead and will soon drop. There is a Soak away installed in about 2008 at a distance 2.5m of this tree/ boundary, location as advised by the council at the time but also council stipulated it had to be 12.5m away from L1 although L1 is a same tree type and size. Potentially work will have to be carried out on this soakaway to maintain / repair in the future.
- L4 - Soakaway installed similar distance as L3 but in about 2003/ 2004. Potentially work will have to be carried out on this soakaway to maintain / repair in the future.

- L5 – Located about 2m away from L4. Unclear if the council has considered the size and form of this tree.

1.2 The conclusion response statements in respect to “The trees are not considered to be in an unsafe condition at this time” and I do not believe the trees will cause an increase in nuisance which would be considered unreasonable or impractical to abate in the future” seem to be a same standard respond wording statement used for different appeal response conclusions and by the same words used by different council officers, these statements do not seem to be tailored and more importantly there is no detail in how they came to this conclusion.

## 2. Other information

- 2.1 Public Village support for TPO – There does not seem to be evidence that there is public support for the TPO, I believe the majority of the people in the village are unaware of the TPO, I ask the three neighbours in Oak Tree Close, two were unaware of the planning application and TPO, the third was aware and is a regular in the public attendance in the parish council meeting (see parish meeting notes for attendance levels), I also have concerns that I will bring up with my District Councillor.
- 2.2 The Arboricultural Report for R.Holmes is an old report but the serious points in regards the roots cut off and Health and Safety issue about the trees I believe are still valid as the tree is unlikely to repairs itself. The roots cut off are still visible today and available to view on the site visit.
- 2.3 In 2012 with my calls to the council about the trees Health and Safety issue the council had no plans to send out a Council Officer, so it was a surprise to find out that a Council Officer had attended the rear of my property without seeking my permission, no report completed initially but it did come to light after further investigation that a number of photos had been taken again without my knowledge. I did register a formal complaint (Complaint number PCC/12/PLN/14?) about the council practice and council officer who was Mr Mark Symonds. (Complaint correspondence are available from me if required). So it was disappointing that when a site visit was planned by Parish Council members / Broadland Officer (Mr Mark Symonds) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 to 33 Church Road, Cantley that this could not be completed because either had check or gained permission from the property owner, this is also after I mention in the parish council meeting last week when I was aware of their visit was to take place that” have you check / gained to permission from the property owner”.

Please consider these points with the appeal meeting and have the above information recorded in the appeal.

Thanks and regards

Richard Holmes

Attachment – 1 x Printed Photo of L1 Tree Roots Cut

