

APPENDIX 1

Head of Legal
Equalities and Democratic Services,
Bromsgrove District Council
The Council House
Burcot Lane
Bromsgrove
Worcestershire
B60 1AA

1 October 2011

Ref: [REDACTED] TPO (7) 2011

Dear Sir or Madam

I was most distressed to receive a letter ([REDACTED]) on 26 August and to find a Tree Preservation Order stapled to my fence when I returned home that evening. I had spoken to the Tree Officers earlier that week and had received a message from one of the officers the day before to say there was no preservation order on the tree. I cannot understand why, when I was seeking advice about my tree, they told me there was no preservation order only to enforce one the following day. I found this misleading and felt I had been deceived. Why did they make a point of telephoning me to tell me there was no order only to place one on the tree the very next day? At the very least the phone call was a wasted action.

Having had time to consider, I have decided I would like to prune the tree as advised by [REDACTED] when he visited me on 8 September to discuss the issues. However, I do object to the preservation order and my concerns are as follows:

The tree is growing and is close to my house

The neighbours across the road have complained that the tree blocks too much of their light

The tree blocks a great deal of light and sun from my garden

The roots have damaged the pavement

I have had the tree pruned twice in the last 8 years at a total cost of £650, it is expensive for me to keep paying such sums when the tree grows back so quickly

I have consulted 3 tree surgeons for quotes to prune the tree and they have all advised that it will only make it grow faster and it would be better to cut it down.

Many more attractive trees were recently cut down further down the road in the Council Cemetery.

Personally I would not want to cut it down at this stage but I am deeply concerned that the tree will become more of a nuisance in the future, could be a threat to the house and my enjoyment

of my garden and that if a tree order is in place I will not be able to rectify that in the future. Ideally I would like, in a few years time, to replace the tree with something smaller and more manageable.

I feel the Council have behaved badly in advising me I was free to do what I liked with the tree one day and acting against their own advice the following day.

Yours sincerely