

APPENDIX (4)

Mr Gavin Boyes
Environmental Services,
Bromsgrove District Council,
Crossgate House Crossgate Road,
Redditch,
Worcestershire,
B98 7SN

Dear Mr. Boyes

Bromsgrove District Council Tree Preservation Order No.(19) 2020

I am pleased to see that Bromsgrove District Council has placed TPO's on the trees at the head of Birkdale Drive, Blackwell.

For thirty years this area of ground has been relatively undisturbed. It contains mature trees, emerging trees, scrub, rotting trunks, unmown grass and other vegetation in variety. It is bordered by the railway which is regularly denuded of vegetation. Beyond the railway is heavily mown golf course which has a number of islands of trees. Beyond this is largely farm land regularly ploughed, releasing carbon. Insects and wild plants are excluded from the crops grown. The south, west and north sides are bordered largely by residential property with manicured gardens. The area containing the trees in question therefore provides a useful habitat for insects, birds and other wildlife. You will be aware that Oak trees are recognised as particularly valuable as host to a large number of species. The two mature oaks (perhaps sixty or seventy years old) lock up carbon and left alone will continue to do so for at least another sixty or seventy years.

There is a Tawny Owl nest box on one of the Sycamore Trees at the bottom of the cutting.

Thirty years ago Bryant Builders, followed by Severn Trent left the top surface of the ground upon which the trees now grow, devoid of most vegetation and covered 70cm deep in sand. I planted three of the Birch trees ringed, the fourth is a seedling.

Approximately one third of my garden is given over to trees and wild woodland plants as you will see if you would like to look at Google Earth.

I wish to lend my total support to the TPO and hope that it may become permanent.

You will be aware that Bryant Builders were prevented from developing the land, I understand because of its proximity to the railway and the vibrations and noise created by trains passing over the points adjacent and just below the area in question.

Yours faithfully,



Chris Kirkman
27 Wentworth Drive.