

From: stephen barnicott
Sent: 23 April 2015 15:51
To: Williams, Benedict
Subject: Your ref. TPO142

Dear Mr Williams

With reference to our telephone conversation and the "provisional tree preservation order" on the ash tree within the gardens of 4 & 5 Stockton Close, Stirchley Park, we would like to formally object about this order.

We looked at the Telford and Wrekin website about a week ago and decided to seek advice regarding the ash tree in our garden in accordance with the advice given on the site that stated:

Trees on your property

Always contact us before carrying out work on trees in your garden to ensure that the trees are not protected by a [Tree Preservation Order \(TPO\)](#), planning constraints or in a conservation area.

We, therefore, in good faith sent an email which we have added below.

When the email was received Matthew Seabrook contacted us and we arranged for a visit to our property so that a professional opinion could be given regarding the work necessary to make the tree safe.

Matthew Seabrook visited our property yesterday, Wednesday 22 April, at 16.10 hours and advised that the tree was in a healthy state BUT there were areas that needed attention.

- 1, There was an amount of dead wood that needed to be removed
2. The tree was in need of "crown thinning"

He advised that, if the wood was to fall on any passing pedestrians while walking along the walkway behind the property WE would be liable. If we are unable to manage this tree and follow the advice of Matthew Seabrook then we believe that T&W are liable.

At NO time did he state that he had begun the work to impose a TPO on the tree. We believe that he acted in an underhand manner not befitting a member of T&W. We take exception to the manner in which we were treated.

Matthew Seabrook stated that a tree is an "asset" and adds value to your property!! He also stated that the tree was a neighbourhood asset. Neighbours within Stockton Close would advise him differently. Removal of ash keys and small ash trees from the garden, driveway, gutters, etc is a continuous problem for everyone.

As we pointed out to Matthew Seabrook, on his visit yesterday, a large amount of dead wood has fallen from the tree over the last 12 months - 2 pieces of 5 metres long. If this wood had fallen on to a passing pedestrian or someone within the garden then a fatality could have occurred. Some work needs to be done and soon.

We believe that this TPO is a negative reaction to a courteous enquiry.

Yours sincerely

Stephen & Mary Barnicott

The following is a copy of the email sent to

envmaintcs

Good afternoon

I telephoned on Monday, this week, and waited for 9 minutes on the line until a recorded message said I could have a call back. I clicked on the required button and a message said that the "first available" person would get in touch. I am still waiting!!

I was ringing to ascertain whether it was possible to cut down, drastically prune or crown lift/crown top the ash tree that is on the fence line of my garden. This tree has grown out of control since I bought the house in 1983. Large branches hang over a walkway and are, in my opinion, dangerous to the general public. Large branches fall, as is quite normal with ash trees, and I am worried that somebody could be injured or even killed if severe management of the tree is not carried out soon. I have 2 grandchildren who live locally and who often play in the garden and my neighbour has 1 grandchild approaching 1 years old.

Many years ago a meeting was held to try to close the walkway but the council declined saying that they would manage the route. Management has been sporadic to say the least. work was carried out in July last year at my instigation.

Could somebody get in touch and visit to look into the regular management of the walkway and discuss the way forward with the tree issue?

Tel 01952 877194

Thank you in anticipation