

MR B PIDDUCK
54 PINEHURST PARK
BOGNOR REGIS
WEST SUSSEX
PO21 3DX

15 OCT 2025

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL
FAO SILVIE STEININGEROVA
PLANNING DEPT
MALTRAVERS ROAD
LITTLEHAMPTON
BN17 5LF

14th OCTOBER 2025

Dear Sir / Madam,

REF: PLANNING APPLICATION AW/194/25/T – REBUTTAL OF OBJECTION FROM STROUD GREEN DRIVE

As the applicant for AW/194/25/T, I want to take the opportunity to respond to the objections from No 42 Stroud Green Drive.

NON-RESIDENT OF PINEHURST PARK

I have seen that an objection has been made against my application to fell my poplar tree from a resident in Stroud Green Drive.

I have to ask both the Arun District Council Planning Officer and Tree Officer that this objection be given less weight in their assessment of my application than for someone living in this road.

APPLICATION CRITICISM

I note in the conclusion that the objector has been critical of my application.

I have submitted a very thorough set of paperwork to fully support my application to fell tree poplar tree G9/T2 in my back garden. My application is my democratic right to do so, and provides full justification for the wide-ranging reasons why the tree needs to be felled, all backed up with professional advice and opinions as much as possible.

OBJECTOR PERSONAL OPINIONS

The objection to my application does not have any supporting information with it. The objector has not stated if he has any professional qualifications, and if so in what type of occupation.

I can only conclude therefore that the objection to my application is based purely on personal opinion which should reduce the weight of the objection even further when the planning and tree officer assess my application.

The objection totally disrespects all of the professional information I have used to support my application. It appears the objector knows more about building insurance than the Association of British Insurers, he knows more about trees than the Arboriculture Association and he knows more about building and building foundations than the Horsham District Council Building Control Team.

The unsupported personal opinions expressed by the objector are unconvincing, and I will not be withdrawing my application form based upon what has been stated.

GROUNDS FOR OBJECTION

The objection has cherry picked the environmental and wildlife aspects of my application to focus on. My application has been made for many perfectly legitimate reasons as stated in the application form, and many of these reasons should override the environmental and wildlife reasons the objector has concentrated on.

PLANNING DECISION HISTORY

The objector criticizes my application, and totally ignores the three planning application numbers I have quoted for my immediate neighbours who were all experiencing exactly the same problems with their tree roots as I am currently.

The objector states for more pollarding to take place, which is easier said than done as everything has to go through the LPA and takes so long to process.

It is of the utmost importance and urgency that this tree is felled before the tree roots find their way into any of our properties drains, water supply pipes or cause any damage to our property foundations.

Section 7 of the objection should also be struck through as being not factually correct as it is only based on more personal opinions.

PINEHURST PARK IS A RESIDENTIAL AREA, NOT A WILDLIFE PARK

The objector does not live in this road and has made an error of judgement of this residential neighbourhood. The Pinehurst Park area sits within a town. The neighbourhood does not sit within the South Downs National Park, it is not an area of special scientific interest, it is not a zoo, it is not a wildlife park or a bird sanctuary.

It cannot be correct in the planning process if wildlife and wild birds are given priority over the future safety and structural integrity of three residential dwellings for human beings. That just can't be correct.

I would say to the objector who doesn't live in this road, and your two relations stop trying to turn this residential area into something it isn't.

PINEHURST PARK PROPERTIES HAVE DIFFERENT LENGTH BACK GARDENS

As a suggestion to partially explain our difference of opinions, the houses on the north side of Pinehurst Park have different length back gardens. It looks like the objector has connections with 60 Pinehurst Park, with properties at that end of the road have longer back gardens than what the houses do in the number 40's and 50's. Maybe with a longer back garden, the trees are not so overwhelming ?

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL: POOR RECORD KEEPING

I have genuinely tried to thoroughly research this area and the TPO before making an application. I see the objector disrespects and criticizes my application, but none of us have really been helped by Arun District Council.

The objector has attempted to take the higher moral ground with me over this one ugly, rotten stand-alone tree and its protection in law. However, from my enquiries I have found, or not found out the following:

- a. This group of poplar trees are so important, . . . they were so vital to the area that Arun DC have nothing documented as to why they imposed Condition 8 on planning permission P/71/75. See Appendix Four of the application.
- b. This group of poplar trees are so important, . . . the justification in the LPA officers report to put the Tree Preservation Order in place is just five lines long. The amount of effort, and the level of thought that went into thinking that through and writing it out, . . . well, it must have taken at least five minutes. See Appendix Five of the application.
- c. This group of poplar trees are so important, . . . Arun DC have not made the effort to record, or at least get an approximate age of the trees when the TPO was applied.

So, all we know is the trees are over 50 years old, . . . a massive oversight by the LPA staff back in the 1970's given these trees are usually only expected to live for 50 years.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

The objector takes issue with my application that the trees fail all criteria to justify a TPO being applied.

The criteria I have used is readily available on many local authorities' web sites. I refer the objector back to my application form, . . . the tree has no historic value, it is not rare, it is not a thing of beauty and the only contribution they make is to the detriment of the area which would be vastly improved if these ugly trees weren't there.

I am not against trees, but they have to be in the correct location. These trees are not in the correct location with the houses being built too close to them.

As I have stated in the application, when the TPO was applied, the people who live in the houses were given zero consideration, and the TPO has failed to recognize that the houses in Pinehurst Park have different length back gardens at different areas in the road.

The objector who does not live in this road, appears to have failed to notice the big gaps in the tree line. This is no coincidence that these gaps have appeared. I totally support my neighbours common sense approach to not replacing trees when they fail given the size of our gardens.

The objector who does not live in this road would not be aware the local community in the middle part of the road are totally against the TPO being in place, and fully support all of the trees being felled.

The objector obviously has the democratic right to comment on planning applications, but please do not expect me to agree with his views or those of his two relations.

I am not against all trees, and what the objector lists as the characteristics of a poplar tree is quite correct, . . . when they are planted in the correct location. These trees are far too close to residential dwellings to have any residents in the middle part of the road support to keep them.

POPLAR TREES ARE DANGEROUS

The objector states poplar trees are not dangerous. They must be safe then if they aren't dangerous. I completely disagree with the words the objector has used which have no supporting evidence, and I ask the planning officer to strike this part of the objection through.

I have emailed in photographs of a large piece of tree further up the road which still sits out in the horses' paddock field. I refer the objector back to those images and what I have written.

POPLAR TREE LIFESPAN

Arun DC have done nobody any favours with their inadequate record keeping as I have stated above.

I disagree with the personal opinion of the objector, and would expect the tiny amount of time left my ugly, rotten stand-alone tree has left to live to be taken into consideration with all of the reasons for the application.

The objector is cherry picking again expecting the assessment of my application to be made purely only on environmental grounds.

I would ask the planning and tree officer to base their decision on all of the reasons for the application, not just the limited few reasons the objector has listed.

ECOLOGY

The objector and the two relations have stated a lot of general bland environmental information in their objections. The information the objector states is just general bland information which can be applied to any tree. There is no specific reason stated which makes the case to keep my ugly, rotten stand-alone tree in Pinehurst Park.

In terms of the birds and wildlife, all three objectors have made a mistake and must be looking at the wrong tree as there are no wildlife or wild bird nests in my ugly tree, rotten stand-alone tree. It is factually incorrect to state there are birds' nests in the tree, and to make out a flock of wood peckers nest there is totally delusional. There have been no nests in the tree for at least two years, probably more.

These facts the objectors state are all again personal opinions none of which is backed up with any supporting information, and I ask the planning and tree officer to strike through this part of the objection as being factually incorrect.

No wildlife or wild bird is going to be made homeless if the tree is felled.

The birds have all found somewhere else to live. The objectors have overlooked the scrappy hedgerow which runs along side the top boundary of my back garden which must be doing a sufficiently good enough job to support the wild life and wild birds for the last few years, as I haven't seen or heard any campaigns to save the wildlife in Pinehurst Park.

The objector criticizes my application as being over stated. I think the objector should take a good hard look at this section, and withdraw that statement.

ROOT DAMAGE AND SUBSIDENCE

The objector has totally disrespected the professional opinion of the Horsham District Council Building Control Team, but provides no evidence to support what he has stated. For example:

"Damage risks are often exaggerated" ?

I cannot accept these personal opinions as being correct, and prefer to refer back to the supporting information I have supplied with my application form.

I ask the planning and tree officers to strike this part of the objection through as being factually incorrect.

These houses would never get planning or building control permission to be built this close to this type of tree if being applied for today.

COMMUNITY AND AESTHETIC VALUE

I completely disagree with every single word the objector has used in this section.

In terms of my ugly, rotten stand-alone tree, the tree does not add any community value at all. To say the tree has community value is not true, and the tree and planning officer should strike this part of the objection off.

The tree is basically located in my back garden behind my house and a locked and bolted side gate. How can it possibly have any community value ? The tree is not accessible for children to play around as they do around the trees on the opposite side of the road on the grass verge.

The objector writes that removing the tree could negatively affect neighbouring residents. The objector does not live in this road, and has no knowledge of the level of contempt for the TPO and the remaining trees from the residents in this middle part of the road. Our gardens just aren't big enough to absorb two trees. If my tree is felled, you will probably hear the cheer from Pinehurst Park go up in Stroud Green Drive ! The objector has absolutely no right to start speaking on behalf of Pinehurst Park residents as his views are completely out of line with the people that do live here, and so are those of his two relations who have also objected to this application.

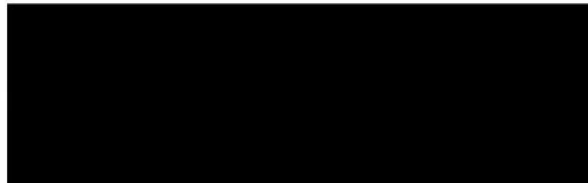
I have stated in my application that the whole TPO for Pinehurst Park should be revoked, and I still stand by what I have written 100%. The trees have no right to be protected by law as they fail all criteria for the legislation to be applied.

This tree line in Pinehurst Park only contributes to the detriment of the neighbourhood and ruins what would otherwise be an AONB. The neighbourhood would be vastly improved if these trees were not there and the area opened up.

I disagree with environmental terminology that trees add character, or they add value to an area. The objector offers no further definition of what these phrases actually mean. As their meaning has not been defined, I ask the tree and planning officer to strike through this area of the objection.

I hope this extra information reassures all three objectors.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Mr B Pidduck.

MR B PIDDUCK

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

To register to receive notifications of planning applications in your area please go to
<https://www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder>



Our priorities...



Improving the wellbeing of Arun



Delivering the right homes in the right places



Supporting our environment to support us



Fulfilling Arun's economic potential




[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

To register to receive notification of planning applications in your area please go to
<https://www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder>



Our priorities...

 Improving the wellbeing of Arun	 Delivering the right homes in the right places	 Supporting our environment to support us	 Fulfilling Arun's economic potential	 
--	---	---	---	--

Sent: 15 October 2025 10:36
To: Planning <Planning@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: