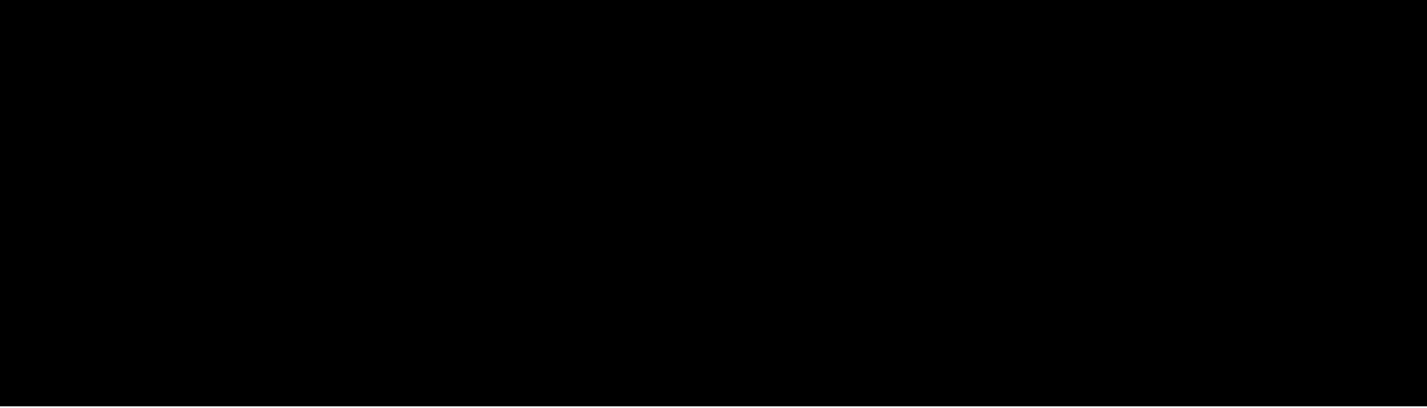






Sent: 04 April 2014 12:46
To: Daniel Vick
Cc: Consultant B Harverson; Janice Chapman
Subject: AW/47/14/T - Fell one Macrocarpa
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Vick

I have read the further comments from the applicant who expresses his concern regarding *'the increasing likelihood of injury to footpath users'*. The Consultant Arboriculturalist says, inter alia, *'...there is no overriding safety issue or reason at this time to warrant removal.'* The applicant wishes to fell the tree because, it reads, *'The tree represents a threat to life and property.'* and, I gather that his wife objected to the making of the new Tree Preservation Order. The Arboriculturalist apparently does not agree and says *'I object to the works described in this application for the reasons stated above and recommend **REFUSAL.**'* I also ask, again, that the application be **REFUSED**.

The applicant claims in his public document dated 1 April 2014 that *'...all tree work has been undertaken by contractors recommended by Arun Council...'*, and if this is the case then it is certainly new practise on the part of the LPA who always, in my long experience of dealing with them, always REFUSE to recommend contractors, agents, tree surgeons or any other trade or consultant.

Mr. Burkinshaw, presumably from WSCC, was presumably called to the public footpath when it was blocked and *'requested that some damaged branches overhanging the footpath be removed for safety reasons.'* Had the applicant called a tree surgeon to make safe HIS tree then it would, presumably, not have been necessary to waste a busy Officer's time!

As to the present state of the tree, it is my view that it represents an utter travesty of tree surgery BUT, if the branches lopped were done simply to make safe the tree then, of course, any certified chainsaw user could legitimately have lopped off and taken away the branches. That is the good news, and the Consultant Arboriculturalist was not, of course, asked to comment upon the condition of the tree and the standard to work seen to have been undertaken. He simply rejected the felling application.

That is why I sent you a copy of 'Figure 2, Positions of final cuts' from the British Standard 'BS3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations' and, from this, it can be seen that the state of the tree is an abomination. The likelihood of disease and die-back occurring on the badly finished branches must be massively greater than if they were cut to the requirements of BS3998:2010. It would be helpful in caring for the trees of Aldwick if the Consultant Arboriculturalist could be asked 'to go the extra mile' and advise upon this, but it is understood that this is not in the application.

On the other hand, the applicant claims that all this was done '*...by contractors recommended by Arun Council*' and if this be the case then they may need some advice on '*final cuts*'!

Kind regards,

Richard Ostler, 52 The Drive, Aldwick.

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