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From: Alastair Higson [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 March 2014 12:23

To: Planning

Subject: Application AW/47/14/T

For the attention of Mr K Roberts and Mrs J Chapman,

With reference to the application to fell the subject tree, I see from the representations made that your Consultant Arboriculturist logged a report in which, after apparently viewing the tree, he states that 'it now contains no actionable defects'.

Perhaps you should check with him whether a large split in one of the upper branches on the north east side, which overhangs the footpath, is an 'actionable defect', and whether he noticed this damage during his visit.

I would respectfully refer you again to the comments from Mr William Hackman in the original application, which stated that although broken branches were removed on 16th January this year, there is already evidence of further branch failure.

As you may be aware, a large proportion of this tree overhangs a busy public footpath, and given its age of about 100 years the likelihood of injury to persons or damage to property is increasing over time. Of the four 'sister' trees to this one within a 60 yard range, two have suffered major breakages and had to be felled within the past 6 years.

I fully appreciate the comments from local people about the beauty of trees in this area, and have tried for the past nine years to care for this tree in its old age. There comes a time, however, when safety considerations outweigh aesthetics.

Yours sincerely
Alastair Higson

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