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21 NOV 2012  
ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MARTYN BERNARD-SMITH  
SHANNOCK  
CHURCH LANE  
EASTERGATE, CHICHESTER  
W. SUSSEX PO20 3UT

Dear Sir

21st November 2012

With reference to your letters of 12th and 15th inst, (EG/62/12/TC) objecting to my request to reduce the size of the beech tree in my garden, I would like to point out that this is the first time I have wanted to trim the tree since it was topped (to stop it getting too big!) in about 1970

I have several other trees in the garden but I have kept them within bounds by annual trimming. The beech has got out of hand and has already enveloped a laburnum and a red May, not to mention some telephone lines. It has got well beyond my pruning.

You state that the Council has made the Preservation Order "because the tree(s) form a feature of the area which should be preserved in the interests of public amenity"

I agree! However, I think the public interest is in the "tunnel" under the beech tree which has spread across Church Lane. My wish is to reduce the height and spread; the tunnel would not be affected. New shoots would soon cover the bald patches and it would look much the same in a couple of years, but slightly smaller.

Finally, a full sized beech tree is fine in parkland but is unsuitable in a domestic setting. My neighbour has a mature oak in his garden but it has been reduced in size several times over the years. I would like to be allowed to do the same, please.

You