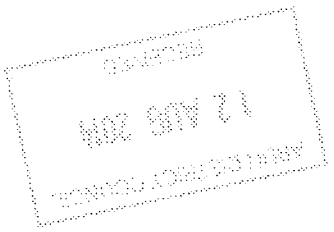
10th August 2014

Tree Preservation Order Dept
Arun District Council
Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
BN17 5LF



Dear Sirs

Please find enclosed my application for works to a tree on my land which has a tree preservation order on it. I enclose a copy of the application, the tree preservation order and a sketch to identify which tree is of concern to us.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 07776150191 or via email at elizabethginabaxter@gmail.com

If you would like to visit the site to see the tree please do let me know as I am very happy to meet you there to discuss our concerns that this tree poses to both our property and the safety of our neighbours.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

Elizabeth Baxter
1 West Preston Manor
Preston Paddock
Rustington
BN16 2AF

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL R/186/14/T

Identification of tree and decription of works as per application dated August 2014 from Elizabeth Baxter

We live in West Preston Manor, a grade II listed building with historical importance to the village of Rustington. Across from the property is a small area of woodland which we own occupied by trees which is separated from the building by a narrow driveway which is the main entrance and exit to this property for ourselves and others on the estate. Some of the trees in the woodland area are protected by TPO's and some are not and we have the TPO which shows those trees affected. The TPO is Ref: TPO/R/2/89 Trees on Land at West Preston Manor dated 30th June 1989 and the lime tree in question is in area G2 although it is not numbered on the TPO it is number 2 on the drawing we are submitting to you. We enclose a copy of the TPO for your reference.

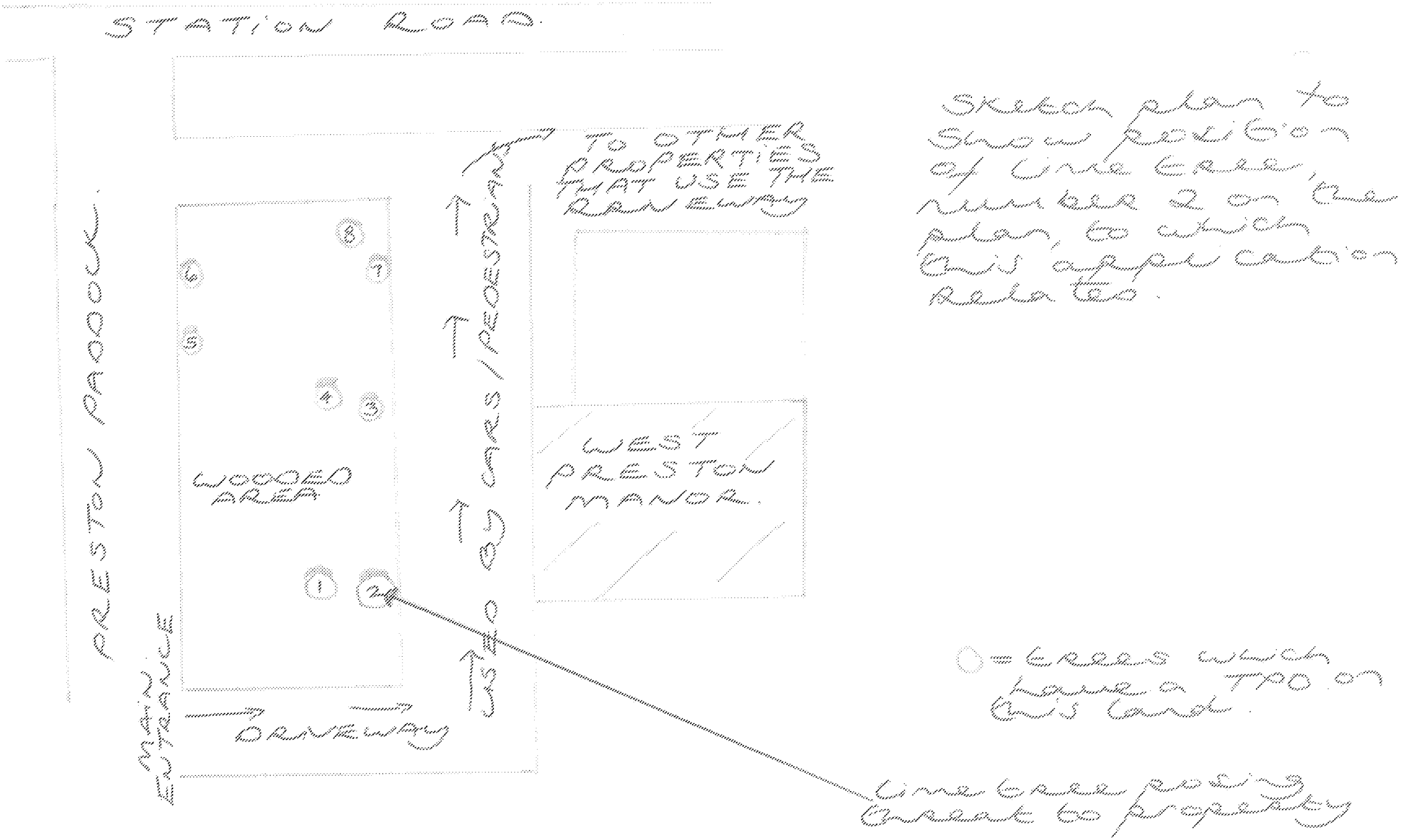
We have become increasingly concerned about a lime tree which is opposite the property and has grown very large to such an extent that the upper branches now reach the roof and guttering of our building. In windy weather these branches touch the roof and guttering, posing a threat to the building and clogging the guttering with leaves and branch debris compromising the guttering which has already had to be repaired once before. It now needs repairing again and this is to be done in the next couple of months. The guttering appears to be original to the building so is very old, metal guttering and very costly to repair. Furthermore if the guttering falls down again, as it did a couple of years ago, it will fall into the driveway causing a major danger to people who use the driveway.

Also, the tree is losing bits of branches on a weekly basis which fall into the driveway and against the house. Just 3 days ago a piece of branch about 5 feet long fell down and we have saved this to show you the extent of the shedding. The driveway is used by ourselves and 10 neighbours every day both in vehicles and on foot. The falling branches would cause damage to cars but serious injury to pedestrians. We have one neighbour who is 91 years old who walks the driveway twice per day and the recent falling branch could have seriously injured her had it fallen on her. We own the land on which the tree stands and do not want to be responsible for any damage to the cars of our neighbours or indeed serious injury to any of our neighbours.

We have had a qualified, local Tree Surgeon look at the tree who says it is generally in good health but has basically grown too large for the area it is in and needs to have 'crown reduction' of around 12 -15 feet to stop the shedding of the upper branches and so that it will be healthier and of a more appropriate size for the area it accommodates. This would also cut back those branches which now reach the property and are threatining to cause damage. We would therefore like to apply for works to be done to this lime tree to reduce it in size so it no longer sheds the top branches and no longer reaches the roof and guttering of our home. This should stop any future damage to the property and the risks to cars and people that it currenily poses.

We would be most gratfeul if this could be looked at as a matter of urgency as we feel it is only a matter of time before either the building is damaged or falling branches cause damage to a car or injury to a person.

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL R/186/14/T


STATION ROAD.
PRESTON PADDOCK.
MAIN ENTRANCE
DRIVEWAY
WOODED AREA
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
USED BY CARS / PEDESTRIANS
TO OTHER PROPERTIES THAT USE THE DRIVEWAY
WEST PRESTON MANOR.
Sketch plan to show position of lime tree, number 2 on the plan, to which this application relates.
= trees which have a TPO on this land.
lime tree posing threat to property