



Alan Weeks
27 Knights Court
Northampton
Northamptonshire
NN3 9AT

Our Ref: ENQ/2017/0764
Contact: Jonathan Hazell
Telephone No: 01604 838790
Email: JHazell@northampton.gov.uk
Date: 27 December 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

PROPOSAL: OBJECTION TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 232
LOCATION: 27 KNIGHTS COURT
NORTHAMPTON
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NN3 9AT

Thank you for your letter dated 1 December with your concerns about Tree Preservation Order 232.

First, let me put your mind at rest – the Order will not prevent appropriate management, it will simply allow the Council as Local Planning Authority to be comfortable that the pruning proposed is reasonable and proportionate. If you, or others, would like to prune the tree then simply apply, see our webpages for details, <http://www.northampton.gov.uk/trees>.

I understand that you might be concerned by how close the canopy appears to be to your home, but that can be addressed by careful pruning to increase the clearance between the branch tips and the house. I need not tell you of the tree's ability to grow back after pruning as you have written that it has "grown back with a vengeance". In response to your observation that if a branch were to snap it would go through the roof of your house – I believe there to still be significant clearance between the tips of the branches and your home as a result of the last pruning regime. I cannot comment upon your concerns regarding insurance issues other than to observe that the tree has been there longer than the property and the tree's presence may have been noted by third parties before now.

The Order was made because it was felt that the tree had considerable public amenity and because it was very visible from the other twelve properties surrounding the green, as well as from further afield. I also believe that the tree was the reason that the green was retained within the development.

Would you now be prepared to withdraw your objection to the confirmation of the Order? – if so could you advise either in writing or by e-mail at jhazell@northampton.gov.uk If your objection were to stand then a report will need to be prepared for consideration by elected members, the purpose of the report would be to seek their consent for the confirmation of the order which we believe to be "expedient in the interests of public amenity" to quote from the regulations.

I trust that the above comments are of assistance. Please note, however, that they represent the views of an officer only and cannot prejudice any decision of the Council as local planning authority.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "J Hazell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Jonathan Hazell
Planning Officer
Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning