# Appendix 3

Mrs. E.Gerrard,
56. Woodlands Road,
Allestree,
Derby.
DE222HF
17.02.11

Ref: - DS/TPO 565. 54 Woodlands Road.

Dear Mr Slinger,
I write regarding the proposed preservation order on the Silver Birch adjoining my property on Woodlands Road, Allestree, Derby.

I am 94 years old, and have lived at No.56 Woodlands road for 62 years and recall the planting of the Silver Birch in 1954 - a sapling collected from Allestree woods. Although fond of trees, I believe this particular one has developed into a monster and cannot imagine why anyone would want to put a preservation order on it?

In the early years, while the original owners of the property were alive, the tree was not a problem, but as it matured, so did the residents and maintenance of the tree, and any restrictions on its growth stopped! Thus, for the past 15+ years, I have had to put up with continued diminishing light in both my bedrooms and living room, debris blocking my gutters in both spring and Autumn from catkins, leaves and wind damage branches, and huge fungi on my already suffering lawns.
I am truly concerned about the proximity of such a beast to my house both from above ground - as Silver Birch are renowned to be brittle – and below ground from the roots. The concrete drive at No.54 is already lifted, and prior to our pavements being re-laid about 4 years ago, that was being lifted too!

I repeatedly asked the surviving members of the family to consider lopping the tree – to no avail – and now they have moved elsewhere and the house is rented (not through an agency and with apparently no stipulations to maintain the garden), I have no way of contacting the owners to request any maintenance what so ever. The property is currently empty and previous occupiers 'didn't know where he lived! This will simply give the owners an excuse to 'opt –out' of their responsibilities entirely while I'm left paying for gutters to be cleaned out and gardeners to keep my property tidy.

So although I endorse your intentions to preserve the maturity of the area, this particular specimen is not enhancing my life, it is impeding it and is therefore inappropriate for a TPO due to: - The proximity to Houses
The proximity to the roadway and footpaths,
The type of tree,
The detrimental effects on immediate neighbours.

I do hope you will take these into consideration before any permanent decision is made. Please feel free to call in and see the scale of the effects on my living environment for yourself, as the benefits to those living next to it are not as 'idealistic' as for those living at a distance.

Yours truly,

Mrs E.Gerrard.