

Appendix 3

Mr and Mrs. S.Evans,
50. Woodlands Road,
Allestree,
Derby.
DE222HF

To: - Mr D Slinger,
Derby City Council,
Neighbourhood's Directive,
Saxon House,
Heritage Gate,
Friary Street,
Derby.

DERBY CITY COUNCIL CORPORATE SERVICES	
- 1 MAR 2011	
FILE REF	
REFERRED TO	

20.02.11

Dear Sir,

Although we have not been informed by the council, it has been brought to my attention by neighbours that you are intending to put a TPO on a large Silver Birch tree on Woodlands Road: - Ref: - DS/TPO 565. 54 Woodlands Road.

I am not an adjoining neighbour to this property, but my telephone cable passes through the branches. This cable is already being pulled taught by being hooked up on a couple of the branches and we have been unable to locate the owners of the property to request maintenance to release it.

I am therefore concerned that if you place a TPO on it, no maintenance will ever be attempted and when I do develop interference with my service, or my cable finally pulls loose, who will be responsible for the cost of the repairs? How am I to contact the owners to get the work done? And how long will all this take if permission has to be sought and quotes done before anyone can touch it?

I fully support your initiative to preserve as many mature trees as possible within our area, but must question your decision in this case. Surely such large trees on properties with tiny frontage are not always appropriate due to the necessity of household services having to pass through either the branches (telephone and electricity cables) or the roots (Gas, water, electric, sewerage etc).

I understand that the 'general rule of thumb' is that the householder is responsible for these services through to where it joins the main in the road. If you (with a TPO) prevent the householder from maintaining their environment to avoid problems developing, are you therefore going to take responsibility for any problems that later occur? I.e. roots blocking/cracking pipes or telephone cable interference.

It seems to me, the focus would be better spent on preserving mature rear garden specimens to maintain the area (with the owners permission obviously)- still visible from the surrounding area but without the risk to households and services. There are some lovely specimens oaks in Firs crescent!

I await your response with interest.

Yours truly,

Mrs J.Evans.