

Neil Edmunds &
Jackie Mullard
30 Park Road
Fordingbridge
Hants
SP6 1EQ

Hannah Chalmers
Senior Tree Officer
New Forest District Council
Appletree Court
Lyndhurst
Hants
SO43 7PA

Dear Ms Chalmers

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO: TPO/0012/21

Thank you for your letter dated 2nd February and would apologise for our late response but we have both recently had Covid.

Whilst we realise that a TPO has no firm definition in law as to the age of the tree, we still feel that we are being penalised for paying for and planting a larger tree to afford us some reasonable privacy. The tree has become much larger much more quickly than we expected and is already overhanging the road. It is planted immediately inside our wall boundary of which the other side is the pavement. We are concerned the roots may cause some pavement and wall damage in the future.

We have no plans to remove this tree at the moment just to keep it under control and keep an eye on the pavement. We have improved our considerable frontage on Park Road immensely since our purchase of the house which in its turn is also a benefit for the district.

We have no present plans to continue our development plans for this site. If it became obvious the tree has outgrown its site we would be happy to put in a replacement which is more suited in size to the location.

Our improvement of our house and garden have proved beyond doubt that we are responsible owners and we would like the continuing care and attention of this tree to remain in our own hands. Our garden is reasonably large and very green with numerous shrubs, other smaller trees and many flowers, a haven for insect and bird life. We tend the garden ourselves.

I would again stress it has only been planted for 7 years and if the council wish to have public amenity trees rather than gain control of a private tree then please plant some more on the green spaces in Fordingbridge.

We do realise we are in a good position of having our own parking off road however there are other houses locally who have made bare their own front gardens in order to put a car on it with no apparent interventions.

We hope we can prevail upon your good sense not to confirm this Tree Preservation Order which would also take up your time in the future every time we wish to trim it.

Thank you for your attention

Yours sincerely

Neil Edmunds & Jackie Mullard