



Mr & Mrs Farminer  
36 Alder Hill Drive  
Totton  
Southampton  
SO40 8JB

06 June 2017

Dear Mr & Mrs Farminer

**Tree Preservation Order No: TPO/0021/17**  
**Site: LAND OF 36 ALDER HILL DRIVE, TOTTON SO40 8JB**

Thank you for taking the time to meet me. Further to my site visit on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017. I can confirm that the oak tree that has been recently protected by the above Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is in good health and has no physiological or structural defects which would make this tree unsuitable for protection.

In your letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017 you raised a number of points objecting to the TPO and I will attempt to address each individual point in the following.

- Before purchasing the property you checked several times whether the tree was protected. It was confirmed to you that it was not so you proceeded with the purchase of the property. At the time you made your enquiry it was not protected and the information you were given was correct. I am concerned that you were told that 'there would not be (a TPO) in the future'. There is no record of this conversation on our systems but officers and administrative colleagues cannot state whether trees will or will not be protected in the future. If there is a tree with public amenity value and it is deemed under threat then there is every chance that it would be protected in the future.
- A concerned resident had contacted us and informed us that this oak tree was under threat of removal. When I visited Alder Hill Drive the tree was clearly visible from the highway and surrounding area. It was deemed that the tree had high amenity value and as it was threatened by removal it was deemed expedient that the tree was protected by a TPO therefore the Tree Preservation was made and duly served.
- You are correct that there is a group TPO on the tree in the rear gardens to the north of your property. This TPO was made in 1980 prior to the building of Alder hill Drive and the surrounding houses and roads the TPO plan still shows this area as open fields I suspect that your tree was supposed to have

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**CHAIRMAN OLIVER CROSTHWAITE-EYRE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ALISON BARNES**

been included in this TPO but when the plan was transferred from the paper format to a digital GIS system the tree in your garden and your neighbour's was missed.

- The tree in your neighbour's garden that has been recently removed. As we were not aware of this prior to the tree being removed and the tree was not protected at that time there is no further action the local planning authority can take.
- There is currently an approximate 3m clearance gap between the tips of the lateral branches and your conservatory. This gap could be increased further with a 2m reduction and re-shape of the crown this work would also help to reduce the amount of falling debris (leaves, acorns, catkins and perching area for pigeons) from the tree. Deadwood can also be removed during this operation.

I hope this clarifies why your oak tree was protected by a Tree Preservation Order and that I have addressed some of your concerns. If you wish to maintain your objection to this Tree Preservation Order please inform me in writing by 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017 and, as I explained yesterday, I will then arrange for your case to be heard by the TPO objections panel.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Chalmers  
Tree Officer  
Tel:  
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Please contact [trees@newforestnpa.gov.uk](mailto:trees@newforestnpa.gov.uk) (or 01590 646620) if you would like a copy of any paperwork in large print, Braille or any alternative language or format or if you are planning to visit Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington and have special requirements.