

Oundle Road.
Woodston.
Peterborough.
PE2 9QY.

RE- TPO - Rhine Close, 23/00004/TPO

To the Secretary of the Planning & Environmental Protection Committee for the meeting of 18th July 2023.

Dear Secretary.

I have had dialogue over the last few months with your Tree Protection Officer Stephen Chesney - Beales over the TPO,s for trees within Rhine Close. 23/00004/TPO and I need to set out my reasons for removing the TPO and potentially the 2 trees.

My reasons are:

1. The two trees are huge and in themselves cause safety issues with their branches falling off and damaging my property.
2. These trees have never really been maintained and again to expect a domestic owner to part with £2,000 – £3,000 every five to eight years for maintenance is unrealistic.
3. One tree is over 50ft in height. Aerial tree maintenance is required and I don't really know how you expect a domestic owner to fulfil this operation.
4. The trees take an awful lot of water from the ground leaving the ground dry and barren and difficult for domestic owners to grow plants and shrubs with copious watering needed, which will be metered and cost lots of money.
5. When these trees where part of the British Sugar Sports Field they were in there right element, but in a small domestic back garden they are a risk to the property, the children of that property and owners, let alone neighbours. I have at present a broken branch puncturing my shed roof.
6. I have been in touch with Olivia Hewitt, the Development Planning Manager at Vistry Partnerships through email on 16th May 2023, but there has been no acceptance of email, in fact purely radio silence. Presumably because of the cost of maintaining these trees.
7. Your TPO Stephen Chesney-Beales believes that it would be easy for anyone to maintain these trees given the TPO requirements. I think that this assertion in itself is at least unrealistic given the size of the trees and the equipment and safety requirements required for maintaining trees of this magnitude.

Please, please, please, remove these trees and replace them with a more sympathetic smaller type which can be easily maintained.

I have appended some pictures for reference.

Yours sincerely

Stephen & Sharon Smith.



Broken and dead branches often hang on live branches The shed is a 10ft wide, to give some scale on the overhanging branches



Branch penetrating my shed roof.



The largest tree, I couldn't get a good picture full size but this would be around 50% of the tree height and width.

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