

**Tree Team**

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Mr J Singh & Mrs B Kaur  
15 Oxford Avenue  
Southampton  
SO14 0BN

12<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Dear Mr Singh & Mrs Kaur

**Re: Tree Preservation Order Objection – 36 Archers Road  
The Southampton (Archers Road) TPO 2011**

Further to your letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> August and our site meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011, I am writing to confirm the matters discussed.

I initially wanted to make it clear that although you currently have proposals to redevelop the above site, any planning issues must be considered separately from the public amenity value of the Ash tree T4 which is subject to the objection. I have enclosed a Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) for your information. This is a nationally recognised system to evaluate the suitability of tree for protection by a TPO.

We looked closely at the Ash T4 for any significant defects which might reduce its long term retention or warrant it unsafe. Although I agree the crown of the tree is slightly unbalanced with growth over the adjoining property, this could easily be remedied with some pruning. The main stem of the tree does fork but I do not agree that there is included bark or that it is potentially weak. There was no evidence of any other major structural defects, decay or instability and the tree is considered to be in generally good health and condition with at least 40 year safe useful life expectancy.

Following your enquiry in May, you were correctly advised there were no protected trees at 36 Archers Road. However, following several residents contacting the Council with concerns over tree felling, a site visit was carried out by myself and a further check on the protected status of trees in Archers Road. The majority of amenity trees were found to be already protected with exception to a Cedar T1, two Copper Beech T2 & T3 and the Ash T4. I discovered that the majority of trees had already been removed at no. 36 with only a few remaining trees, the Ash T4 being one of the largest most prominent trees considered worthy of protection.

You confirmed at our meeting that you wished to maintain your objection and for the matter to be put before the Council's Planning and Rights of Way Panel for a decision on whether to include the Ash T4 in the TPO and be confirmed. You also stated you wished to gather more information and that a hearing in a couple of months would be most convenient when you would be able to attend and present your case. I can advise you that Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011 is the date for the Panel's December meeting and I will arrange for your case to be heard then. You will be advised on further details of the meeting in due course, in the meantime I would appreciate your confirmation of the above and that the Panel date will be suitable.

Please do not hesitate to contact me again if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Nik Gruber  
Senior Tree Officer

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