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COMPUTER

Ms A King  
Tree Service  
Natural Environment Team  
The Shirehall  
Abbey Foregate  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY2 6ND



13 June 2015

Dear Ms King

**Tree Preservation Order: SC/00228/15**

I am writing to object to the above numbered tree preservation order issued 29 May 2015.

My first objection concerns the amenity value of the tree. Although the tree in question is large and purple, it is only visible for a short period as you drive into the village and only then if you know to look for it. It is not accessible by villagers as it is within my garden and overhangs the road. It is only visible from a few adjacent properties, one of which is shaded significantly by this tree. So I believe it has limited amenity value.

I have a report from a tree surgeon indicating that the tree is fully mature and beginning its decline. There are tight joints which are potential weak junctions. The crown is very heavy, with a huge spread, loading considerable stresses on the weak junctions. Future failure of any of these heavy limbs must be considered possible, resulting in danger to the highway, the house opposite and my own house. Added to this, the growth is virtually all at the end of the limbs. There are no suitable pruning points and therefore to reduce the crown significantly would almost certainly mean the death of the tree. To summarise, the future of the tree is dubious.

A council arboriculturist visited and we are awaiting his full report, however he did confirm a lot of the comments above but believes the tree is sound and could cope with minimal pruning; a maximum of 10%.

My second objection to a TPO being placed on this tree is the fact that the crown of the beech tree is encroaching on a beautiful Specimen Dawn Redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostoboides*; commonly call the dinosaur tree as it was thought to be extinct. This encroachment is consequently pushing the Redwood off the vertical and preventing growth on one side, see attached photograph. This tree is approximately 45 years old and is the only such tree that I am aware of in this local area. The World Conservation Union class this

species 'Critically Endangered'. Therefore, I believe this is a more important specimen and should be the priority.

I anticipate that the Council's arboriculturist will report that the beech tree is safe. Safety is obviously of paramount importance here as the tree overhangs a road and could easily damage a neighbouring property if we experience a storm whilst the canopy is full. I do, however, believe that the stewardship of the Dawn Redwood is a higher priority than that of the Copper Beech which is mature and in decline. The beech tree would need to be pruned by at least five metres on the eastern side to allow the Dawn Redwood to recover and continue to grow unimpeded. However, to ensure that the Beech tree continues to be both aesthetically pleasing and safe, it would need to be reduced by this amount all round.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Michael Cauchi

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22 JUN 1975  
Action: \_\_\_\_\_  
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