



14/5/15

Dear sir,

- 1) Please be aware that I, as the owner of the affected property, object to the imposition the proposed Tree Preservation Order restricting the management of the field behind Dunsford Landrovers former premises and the neighbouring houses.
- 2). In December 2014 I was alerted via letter by Jane Brewer of BANES to the poor condition of trees which had been allowed to grow wild for some years in what was part of a field left over when Beaser and Co built Meadow Park.
- 3). Accordingly, we took professional advice and decided to remove twenty trees on the North side of the footpath which runs East-West across the middle of the property.
- 4). I personally informed Ms Brewer of our intention to start work and the date we were starting. Ms Brewer subsequently visited the property and spoke to the tree surgeon who tells me that she gave him the go-ahead to carry on. Ms Brewer is the signatory of the proposed TPO which was subsequently issued.
- 5). Once we started clearing the area it became apparent that local people had been dumping their waste in amongst the trees and neighbours had been moving their boundary fences in attempts to purloin my property. They had also cut down a number of trees without my knowledge.
- 6). We also found two car tyres hung from tree boughs as swings which we judged to be dangerous and given the choice of closing the footpath to prevent access on safety grounds or removing the boughs we chose the latter so as not to inconvenience people who used the path as a short cut.
- 7) Although the proposed TPO is vaguely worded and does not refer to any specific trees and merely says that I should ask approval in writing before carrying out future maintenance, the authority would have it in their power to refuse their approval and I do not believe that would be justified. I will still be responsible for the safety of people using the footpath or, indeed, straying from the path to walk their dogs or to play on the property. As things stand at the moment, the tree surgeons have been stood down and I do not consider the place to be safe but my hands are tied and we are not allowed to complete the maintenance.
- 8) If we cannot finish the job we will have to close the footpath which will give rise to far more complaints from residents than the removal of trees ever did.
- 9) The following points should be taken into consideration:
 - i. The land in question at the time the surrounding houses were built was a field .
 - ii. It is not in a conservation area.
 - iii. It is private land.
 - iv. According to our advisor, Alister Rankine, none of the trees on the land are better than grade C.
- 10). We have no plans to cut down any deciduous trees North of the footpath but would like to thin the trees on the South side by removing thin growths in the 6" to 9" range and are advised of a dangerous tree on the Southern boundary which a neighbour has expressed concern about
- 11). I am happy to discuss the future management of the site with BANES and had hoped to have a discussion between our advisor and Ms Brewer before composing this letter but she felt unable to accede to that request due to the unexpected interference by the Forestry Commission brought about by one of the neighbours whose brother works for the Forestry Commission.

12). The work so far has cost me £8000 and has been left unfinished , untidy and possibly dangerous (one tree is half- felled) because of an interfering neighbour .

All I ask is that the works can be completed and the area rendered tidy and safe.

As to the proposed TPO, once the management of the site is agreed between myself and BANES there will be no need for a TPO any more than there has in the past. I ask that the TPO be cancelled once such an accommodation has been reached.

Yours Faithfully

14/5/15.

PETER WATERS

Thistle Barn
Ashley
Box
SN13 8AJ