

Date: 4th June 2015
Our Ref: Jkb/503-7
Direct line: (01225) 477505
E Mail: Trees_andwoodlands@bathnes.gov.uk

Mr P Waters
Thistle Barn
Ashley
Box
SN13 8AJ

Dear Mr Waters,

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Bath and North East Somerset Council (Land Between Meadow Park and Box Road,
Bathford No.7) Tree Preservation Order 2015**

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of objection in relation to the above Tree Preservation Order.

I have noted in item 2 of your objection that you refer to my letter to you dated 2nd December 2014, copy attached. Please note that the letter was a result of concerns from residents in Box Road. The letter does not state that the trees were in poor condition but seeks your assurance that you were aware of your duty of care and that you arrange for the trees to be regularly inspected.

Your e-mail responses of 16th February 2015 stated that your contractors were thinning out trees and shrubs so that the larger trees could be assessed. The felling which was subsequently undertaken did not reflect the contents of your e-mail. In addition, I noted that the works did not relate to any trees near to Box Road.

Please note that it was not I who spoke to your contractor on site. It was a colleague, Denise Hart, who is an experienced Arboriculturalist. Denise is quite clear that she did not instruct Mr Sykes to continue but did advise him that she were investigating an enquiry from a member of public and was collecting information regarding activity on the site.

Attending to trees which are dead or dangerous is exempt from the requirement to make an application to the Council, however 5 days notice would be necessary. Your advisor, Alister Rankine, is able to guide you on this and how to apply for works which are not exempt.

I note that you have referred to trees being 'grade C' within your letter. This relates to the assessment of trees in relation to development proposals within BS 5837:2012 trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations. Should you be considering development of the land I would strongly recommend that you submit a preapplication enquiry.

The Tree Preservation Order is a legal document and the contents of the document is dictated by the relevant legislation. However, more information regarding Tree Preservation Orders is available on the Councils' website at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/environment/trees-and-woodlands/tree-preservation-orders>

The use of the woodland designation, as opposed to groups or individuals, is considered appropriate in view of the wooded nature of the site. The designation not only protects those trees which are currently present but also regenerating stumps, natural regeneration and new planting.

The Council has received representations from 26 local households and Bathford Parish Council in support of the Tree Preservation Order.

I would be pleased to meet you with your arboriculturalist in due course to discuss future woodland management. However, I maintain that the Tree Preservation Order is appropriate and I propose to recommend that the Tree Preservation Order is confirmed.

You have objected to the Order so the decision on whether to confirm the Tree Preservation Order or not will be determined by the Development Control Committee and I will advise you of the date in due course.

Yours sincerely

Jane Brewer
Senior Arboricultural Officer

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