

Note A:

Unfortunately, I cannot find the relevant correspondence, but I am fairly confident that we had successfully applied to Havant Borough Council Planning Authority in 2017 and 2020 to have the three poplar trees in our garden tidied up and pollarding carried out to a more manageable level.

As per the attached application form, we are once again requesting permission to repeat the process.

However, you will note from the pictures that we are asking permission to reduce the 3 poplar trees just below the previous pollarding points – probably no more than between 6 and 12 inches. The reason for this is to remove families of squirrels currently nesting in all three trees. Apart from the damage they are causing to the facias and the real concern that they will cause serious damage inside our loft, they are also continuously digging up numerous potted plants in our garden and frightening off the bird life from the aviary we have built in our garden.

The information and recommendations to assist us with this application has been received from our arborist Luke Smith of Fellwood Tree Surgeons and from Charles Flatman of authorised pest control experts Malum Southern.

Luke Smith has informed us that a small reduction below the previous pollarding level will have no adverse effect on future growth as can be evidenced from the photos showing growth below the previous level.

Charles Flatman is of the opinion that by removing the current nesting areas, all three squirrel families will relocate elsewhere, thus saving us having to install more traps, reduce the risk of further attempts to access our loft, safeguard our plants and also to protect the many birds using our aviary.

Both Luke Smith and Charles Flatman are very willing to provide further information in support of our application, should it be required.