

7 Maple Wood
Bedhampton
Havant
PO9 3JB

27th July 2013

Havant Borough Council
Civic Centre Road
Havant PO9 2AX

Letter by email to representations@havant.gov.uk

Dear Mr Murray,

Your ref: APP/13/00651 - Reduction of Sycamore Tree within 6 Maple Wood

I am concerned that the application to modify this tree does not go far enough to reduce the danger that this tree poses to life and property. I reported in May by email to Mr Gargett, Havant Borough Council, who is familiar with the case that a 6 metre bough of this tree fell into my property permanently damaging garden furniture. It could have been far worse had someone been in the garden at the time.

To avoid any further incidences this tree should be reduced substantially if not removed. I enclose a copy of a letter from Sarah Kiss of Kiss Tree Management Limited. In her letter she notes that the tree is forked at the base and there has been no inspection of the condition of the fork since the tree is overgrown with ivy at this point. The strain of the canopy is therefore all at the lower end of the tree and it would be here that the tree would split apart.

Rather than marginally reduce the height and width by 4.9m and 3m as per the application, she states that my neighbours and the Council should consider a more dramatic reduction of the tree to allow the secondary canopy to establish from the existing lower canopy, see paragraph 8 of her letter. This would reduce the tree to the same height as the adjacent eucalyptus and other trees at the bottom of my neighbours' garden and it would reduce the strain on the fork. Leaving the existing tree with its current or marginally reduced height means the tree remains open to severe winds since the gardens of Maple Wood are in an exposed position. A more severe reduction would also make it easier for my neighbour to have the tree maintained in future years. At the proposed reduction of 4.9m it would mean every two or three years there would need to be further maintenance at this height.

The trees in Maple Wood, whilst in a tree preservation area are now of an age that many are too tall. In recent years two trees have had to be taken away, one in the opposite corner of my neighbours garden since it fell and damaged his property and one in front of No 10, Maple Wood since it had become a danger to their house

Yours sincerely,

