

Mr J H Beats

Your Ref: APP/24/00517

18 Barrow Rise

Wyke Regis

Weymouth

DT4 9HJ

Monday 9th July 2024

Subject: Site Address 34 Longwood Avenue, Waterlooville 'Idlewood' - Overhanging tree branches and overgrown foliage affecting adjacent property at No 27 Ruskin Way.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my mother in law, Mrs Jean Hannaford who lives at No 27 Ruskin Way, Cowplain, Hants PO8 8JX. Her bungalow is situated at the top end of Ruskin Way next to a public footpath which runs along the border of the wooded site at 34 Longwood Avenue, Waterlooville named 'Idlewood'.

I have serious concerns over the effect that some of the tree branches and overgrown foliage are having on my mother in law's property and more importantly on her wellbeing and peace of mind for the following reasons:

1. There is a very well established bush of Laurels just inside the 'open wire' perimeter fence of the 'Idlewood' site next to the public footpath which stretches along this fence in line with the length of my mother in law's bungalow side wall. These laurels used to be kept trimmed to keep the height to six feet in the past which meant that natural sun light was available inside that side of the property. These Laurels have now grown to such a height that they prevent most of the natural sunlight during the day from entering that side of the bungalow. This makes it very dull in the bathroom and bedroom on that side of the property and particularly in the kitchen / dining area where the electric light needs to be left on all day to provide sufficient light to live by as this is the area which is occupied mostly by my mother in law during the day. This is even the case on the sunniest of days!
A number of these laurels and other types of foliage are also protruding through the 'open wire' perimeter fence of the 'Idlewood' site and growing across the public footpath which is causing an inconvenience / hazard to people who use the alleyway.
2. This year's growth of the trees at the edge of the Idlewood site next to my mother in law's bungalow is already causing branches to reach over the footpath and hang over the roof

guttering of my mother in law's bungalow. This is likely to cause blockage of the gutters during Autumn when the leaves will be shed by these trees.

These overhanging branches also cause it to be continually shaded in that part of the garden so consequently an abundance of moss grows on the concrete which presents a slip hazard during wet weather. We also have worries over the adverse effect that these overhanging branches could have upon the roof of my mother in law's bungalow in the future if they are left to grow into mature branches being so close to the roof structure.

The issues raised above are causing great concern to me, my wife and my mother in law over the safety of her property and most importantly the accumulative effect of this on her wellbeing and the adverse effect that this continued anxiety is having on her.

Considering all the issues highlighted within this letter could we please request the following in order of priority:

1. The laurels which have grown excessively tall inside the perimeter fence of the 'Idlewood' site adjacent to my mother in law's property are cut down to 2 metres in height to allow the natural sunlight back into the affected rooms along that side of the bungalow.
2. A reduction of the overhanging branches to provide 3 metres clearance from the roof of 27 Ruskin Way. This will alleviate the requirement for repeated gutter clearing and will also allow more light into her garden preventing the build-up of moss.
3. The laurels and foliage growing through the 'open wire' perimeter fence of the 'Idlewood' site across the alleyway are cut back in line with the boundary fence which will benefit users of the alleyway.

Your assistance and support from the appropriate Council Departments with these three requests would be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J H Beats

cc: Mrs J Hannaford (Hardcopy)