

Attn: Ms Lesley Wells

Thank you Lesley for the updated Arboricultural Impact Assessment for this planning application. We have a few comments as follows:

1) The white poplar ("cottonwood") Tree 9 is referred to in para 1.3.3 and elsewhere as being offsite. Actually it is onsite as at least half of the trunk is on the Fowley cottage side of our boundary.

Apparently it self seeded on the boundary many years ago. A picture is attached showing the tree from the Fowley cottage side looking along the boundary fence of the substation.

2) The tree is not in such a good state as mentioned in the report, which was based on an inspection in August 2023. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] as there were clear signs of rot, and brittle branches were falling down (picture attached of tree rounds showing large hollow areas).

3) There is no mention on the maps of the 25kV electrical substation underneath the tree canopy.

This serves the whole of Beacon Square. [REDACTED] a large branch overhanging the substation removed in February as damage to the substation would affect the whole of Beacon Square (picture of substation showing debris from the tree within it)

4) It is suggested that the tree will need the crown reducing by 3.5m for clearance required.

However given that the roots will be affected (para 2.3 could be 2.6% of the RPA) and that the two remaining trunks on the Fowley Cottage side may well have the same weaknesses identified in the removed trunk we think that the safest option would be for the tree to be removed completely. The tree is over mature with very brittle branches. We have no objection to this as we think it is the safest course of action.

5) We would like to reiterate that we are supportive of this application (and have already submitted comments in support) so this email just corrects the impact assessment regarding the position of Tree 9 and adds more detail about its condition.

Best Regards,
[REDACTED]





