

20th May 2019

HAVANT BOROUGH
COUNCIL

22 MAY 2019

Dear Ms. Stewart.

ref: APP/19/00437
RECEIVED

Thankyou for your letter outlining this proposal.

I write to express my possible concerns regarding the proposal to selectively reduce an oak tree which is the subject of a tree Preservation Order, TPO 1071. Whilst recognising that this will not destroy the tree, it will, in effect, be a mutilation. This tree is one of several oak trees in the vicinity of Bound Lane which are believed to be over 200 years old. At present, this tree is a very beautiful, symmetrical shape and I am concerned that these proposals may change this.

I am also concerned that trees such as this are habitats for wildlife that may not be immediately obvious, especially for insects (some rare) and roosts for birds. We have lost a lot of our wild habitats in this lane recently and any sites remaining are important and valuable.

I believe that it is important that a professional survey of the wildlife and the habitat should be carried out before anything is done as although it would not destroy the tree, it would be serious disturbance. It is also important to make sure nothing is done until later in the year to minimise disturbance to breeding birds, chicks are fully fledged and dispersed and a bat survey should be carried out.

I am unclear why this application has been made. If there is danger I can understand the necessity to rectify this. However, I cannot believe that this is the reason in this case. This is a beautiful native tree.

Yours Faithfully