

Fw: 174-176 Bury Old Road Manchester M7 4QY - 137823/TPO/2023

John Kelsey <john.kelsey@manchester.gov.uk>

Mon 10/2/2023 12:19 PM

To: lustmanjoshua@gmail.com <lustmanjoshua@gmail.com>

Dear Mr Lustman,

I have received the City Arborist report on the above proposed tree works. Please see below

174-176 Bury Old Road Manchester M7 4QY - 137823/TPO/2023

The applicant has submitted the following information:

The tree is the large beech tree between 174 and 176 Bury Old Rd, situated at the front of the property next to the road. I believe it is protected by a City of Salford (No. 4) TPO 1969 tree number T29. We would like to fell the tree for the following reasons. (My neighbour at 174 Bury Old Rd is happy for us to do this): - It is a very large tree, perched on top of embankments on 3 out of 4 sides. As it is so overgrown, the roots seem to be sustained in mid-air, with no proper anchor. It is a wonder how it is still anchored in the ground and has not blown over yet. It is breaking up the concrete embankments and I think it is only a matter of time before it becomes even more unsafe. If it were to blow over, it would cause tremendous damage, either to one of the nearby properties, cars, or most dangerous, the busy main road, not to mention the fact that it may crush a passerby.

- The tree has grown in between telephone wires and may cause damage to them as it continues to grow. - In the autumn fall, it creates excessive leaves and beech nuts falling on our path, that need to be cleared a few times a week. We have a small child in a pram, and it has caused us to slip on our steep drive quite a few times, which can be dangerous to our child as well as to us. It can also sometimes be nearly impossible to push him up as we keep slipping back down. - The large branches and foliage create excessive shading, and also makes our drive more slippery. - Our driveway currently has steps on it, and there is no space to park our car on it. As we live on a main road with a bus lane, we also have no option of parking outside our house. We are therefore planning on digging out our drive to make it wide enough to park our car on it. However, we are apprehensive of spending so much money on it, just for the tree roots to break it all up, and for moss to grow on it due to the shading, making it very slippery. - The tree roots may cause damage to our drains, water pipes and gas and electric infeed pipes. - In strong winds, lots of twigs and some small-medium branches do fall down, which can be a danger to us and other pedestrians walking past. Were larger branches to fall, which although is less likely, it would cause lots more damage. Although it is totally the wrong place for a large tree, we would be happy to plant a smaller tree/bush such as a conifer to replace it.

I read the reasons for removal and my comments are as follows:

The Beech tree is a mature TPO'd specimen with high visual amenity value which is in keeping with the surrounding area and contributes massively to the street scene.

The onus is on the owner to have the tree inspected to check on the tree's health. Most city council highway trees will drop leave and debris in private gardens, however, the enviromental benefits that these mature trees offer far out weight the burden of leave litter.

The proposed installation of the driveway could still go ahead if done professionally as there are many modern methods that incorporate trees into the designs and installation processes.

I can confirm that given the information presented to us, we would have to object to the removal of the seemingly healthy specimen.

Given this report the City Council are unable to support the removal of this protected tree. If you wish to amend the application to include pruning works and deadwood removal, to alleviate any issues with falling branches please provide a specification of these works. You also have the option to withdraw the application. If I do not hear from you within by beginning of next week this application for removal of a mautre beech tree at the above property will be refused.

Best regards,
John

John Kelsey
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