

Re Tree Protection Order 13 Queens Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 3AN

Dear Mr D Parkin,

We write to appeal the decision to place a Tree Preservation Order on the hawthorn tree at the front of our property. We outline our reasons for this below and request approval to remove the tree and replace it with a more suitable species in a more appropriate location.

It is our belief that this tree, of hedgerow species, has low amenity value and does not contribute positively to the streetscape. There is a large mature tree located 6.5m from this tree within the footpath outside the property; removal of the hawthorn will cause little effect on the visual appearance of the street.

The root system has damaged the adjacent wall, illustrated in the image attached. The instability of the wall is worsening and poses a risk to pedestrians.

The tree is in very close proximity to the water supply as detailed in the photograph supplied, it is possible that roots may fracture the supply pipe. The tree is also in very close proximity to the telephone pole with numerous wires crossing; this poses a risk in adverse weather conditions.

The crown overhangs the pavement and drops branches in moderate wind or heavy rain, falling branches pose a risk to passing pedestrians.

The crown is in poor condition despite the work undertaken by arborists in the 11 years we have lived at the property.

The proposed felling is part of a wider landscaping project at the front of our property for which we have employed the services of a professional landscape architect. The proposed design is attached. The benefits of this work are as follows:

- existing tarmac will be replaced with a scheme to include sympathetic raised bed planting which will significantly contribute to the aesthetics of the street
- off-street charging for a second electric vehicle providing a positive environmental impact
- the additional parking created will enhance the visual appearance of the street and reduce pressure for on street parking

- the hawthorn will be replaced with a more suitable tree in the opposite corner of the front garden, complimenting the existing large tree.
- the replacement of the existing tarmac with planting areas and gravel will create sustainable urban drainage significantly reducing surface run off

A previous application in 2016 to remove a laburnum causing similar issues to this hawthorn was approved.

We believe the removal of this tree and proposed landscaping will improve the aesthetic of the local area and provide environmental benefit.

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.