

This main thrust of this appeal is to call for a much broader sense of proportion and reasonableness with regard to the 'profit and loss' equation of my application. I am attempting to eliminate the risk to my home posed by the danger of a tree being blown down by requesting some relatively minor pruning.

I wish to emphasise at the outset that I, and all the residents of Bedwyr Court and Applewood Close whom I have canvassed, fully appreciate the aesthetic and amenity value of the trees and do not wish them to be felled or damaged. Furthermore, I dispute the LPA's assertion that the "health, safety and amenity value" of the trees would suffer any deleterious effect were the crowning which I have requested to be carried out.

In the first instance the public area in question measures approx. at least 120x30 metres with 32 single-trunk and at least 6 multi-trunk fully grown forest trees (none of which is lower than about 10 metres) currently standing there. In contrast, I have requested that the 3, or perhaps, 4, trees closest to my house be crowned by no more than 4 metres. This would be, in the context of the whole area, fairly insignificant.

Secondly, I have reason to believe that a competently executed crowning need not produce any negative outcomes.

In addition, although I, along with the other residents of Bedwyr Court and Applewood Close, appreciate the amenity value of this stand of trees, again, some sense of perspective is required. The trees concerned are mainly silver birches, not ancient oaks, and the grassed area has been, as it were, left stranded by a fairly recent housing development. It is not, as far as I know, a **designated** park or amenity area. We the residents can enjoy the rural ambiance created by the trees, but the area is quite 'tucked away' and is rarely, if ever, visited by the general public for its own sake.

I feel that a wider view needs to be taken here than that of the 2 Tree Protection Officers who have visited this site. It is emphatically not the case that having 3 or 4 trees crowned would be the thin end of the wedge leading to everybody in the parish requesting trees be felled. I value the dash of rurality conferred by these trees in an urban area but these living organisms do need to be managed, especially when in close proximity to housing, and a bit of management, not thoughtless vandalism, is all I am calling for. Also, besides exaggerating the possible negative effects of crowning, I do wonder whether the LPA underestimates the risk. True, trees are not deracinated every day and Storm Doris on February 23rd spared us, although several trees in Wrexham were uprooted. But, but we only have to be unlucky **once**!

I appeal to you to take a wider view of the issue and overturn this refusal. It would seem to be a great gain in terms of security for my wife and me at very little cost to the environment. I would add that I am open to negotiation on the issue.

Yours,

[Redacted Signature]

Keith Owen

06.03.17