

Mr and Mrs McDonnell
55 Thirlmere Road
Lancaster
LA1 3LL

2nd October 2017

Lancaster City Council

Regeneration & Planning Services

Development Management

PO Box 4

Town Hall

Lancaster

LA1 1QR

Dear Maxine Knagg,

Re: Tree preservation Order no.622 (2017)- 57, Thirlmere Road, Lancaster, LA1 3LL

As residents of 55 Thirlmere Road we would like to maintain our objection to the TPO no. 622 affecting T1.

One of our main issues is one that we highlighted in our previous correspondence and pictures (letter dated 25th August 2017), is that the residents of number 57 Thirlmere Road have previously chopped branches of their tree (the one subject to the TPO no.622 (2017)) when it has been a inconvenience to them, however now we are not allowed to undertake the same privileges and as you can see from the many pictures we have sent the tree mainly disrupts our property and lands and has no clear impact on that of the house at number 57, where the tree is actually growing.

As a gardener who works for Lancaster City Council I fully understand the importance of living organisms and the beauty of trees and plants nevertheless, when it is impacting on someone's property to the extent it is on ours, then I also feel it is vital to weigh up the benefits of the tree against structural buildings and property especially when the tree in question does not belong to them.

From Previous pictures sent to yourselves, it can clearly be seen that the roots from the tree (subject to the TPO no. 622 (2017)) have uplifted paving slabs in my garden as well as causing damage to my shed, it is also preventing me from updating my garden as it is impossible to lay new slabs on top of the roots and it caused a very uneven surface that I

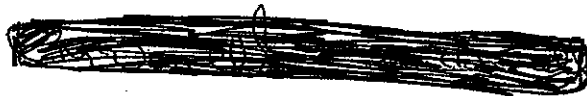
worry could easily be a trip hazard for me and my family (I have 2 young grandchildren that regularly come round to the house and like to spend time in the garden but I have grave concerns that they may hurt themselves due to tripping on the uneven flagstones.

The branches are also very close to two telephone wires, which I don't feel is safe and does affect the quality of the sound of the landline phone. The roots are very near (and have possibly invaded) two manholes/drain systems which is also a concern that we feel needs considering. Whilst trees can form part of an existing landscape, currently it is the only view we have from some of our rear windows and has a major impact on light that we get in through these.

In your previous letter you discuss root pruning as an option, when the roots are considered to be disturbing existing structures, we would like to check who would be liable for the payment of this? As the belongs to the residents of 57 Thirlmere Road, but is majorly affecting our property (number 55 Thirlmere Road). Also, other than the letter and photographs we have already supplied what other information would be needed to further show the damage it has already caused and are still continuing to cause?

Please could the photographs be sent back to us so they can be used (if needed) at the TPO appeal hearing.

Yours Sincerely



Richard and Susan McDonnell