Andy Bush,
Arboriculture Officer,
Horsham District Council,
Parkside,
HORSHAM,
West Sussex RH12 1RL

2nd February 2024.

Ref: Trees at Thistledown, Clays Hill, BRAMBER, BN44 3WD.

Dear Andy,

Further to my letter to you of the 9th of October 2023 (copy attached) the following has occurred: -

On the 16th of December 2023 a very small bough from the Lime tree hit the roof of the house and broke 14 tiles (see photograph attached). This was repaired by Steyning Roofing on the 18th of December at a cost of £160. Another tile has also been broken at the other end of the roof and this remains to be replaced.

On 20th December 2023 tree surgeons came from Arboricultural Excellence and removed 2 dead boughs (6" dia.) from the Lime tree and some other smaller dead branches. They informed me that there is a lot of damaged/dead wood that needs removing from the Lime tree.

I wrote to Humphrey Avon on the 18th of December and received a reply on the 22nd, a copy is attached.

I enclose a completed application form plus the following photographs and documents: -

1. Plan showing trees along the boundary of Thistledown and Burletts.
2. List of work proposed.
3. Detailed information on trees numbered 13,14,15, & 16.
4. Letter from H. Avon, owner of the trees.
5. Letter from previous tenant of the flat over the garage which is self-explanatory.
6. Photograph of recent damage to roof.
7. Photograph of branch from tree No. 13.
8. Proposed trimming of tree No. 13.
9. Proposed trimming of trees numbered 14 & 15.
10. Proposed trimming of trees numbered 15 & 16.
11. Shows relationship of the tree group to my house
12. Shows the proposed trimming of tree number 5 (Ash).
13. Shows the proposed trimming of tree number 6 (Holm Oak).

As can be seen from photographs numbered 8, 9, 10 and 11, the trees numbered 13, 14, 15 and 16 are very close to my house. The trunk of tree number 14 (Lime) is 4 ½ metres away from my house and is also some 25+ metres high. With a southwest wind it is inevitable that dead branches fall on the roof of my house.

I have repaired the roof myself perhaps 10 times in the last 40 years, but in the last 6 years it has been more than just a few tiles (it cost £160.00 in December 2023).

Trees numbered 13, 14, 15 and 16 are now clearly a safety issue and it is not reasonable to have to sleep in that part of the house in a high wind of 45 mph.+.

My tree surgeon, Rowan Mellors of Arboricultural Exellence feels that tree number. 14 (Lime|) could be reduced by about 1/3rd and that trees numbered 15 and 16 as you consider necessary. I have indicated what I think sensible on photographs numbered 9 and 10.

If there is any more information required, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Richard Moore

Thistledown,
Clays Hill.
BRAMBER,
West Sussex BN44 3WD