

Dear Planning department,

I'd like to discuss the felling of 2 large Scots pines on my land which have a T.P.O over them, prior to starting my build. Both have potential to cause serious damage to the building and pose a risk to human life if they were to fall over in high winds, which some smaller ones already have. I have attached a copy of my tree report, which on page 24, shows the root zone radius and how they encroach on the build. The two trees I'd like to fell are, 1.16 and 1.17.

Details & my reasons for requesting to fell them:

Both trees are mature Scots pine, 20m (60ft) tall. Unlike the other remaining large trees which lean slightly North towards the field, these sit plumb straight & on the edge of a ditch and could fall in any direction. If they were to fall over once the house is built, due to the distance away, the height and weight would destroy the house could also cause serious harm to anyone within the house including my 5 year old son, who's bedroom is at the rear. The previous architect who submitted the plans in Jan 2020 had also made a mistake by missing off the block built workshop to the East rear side of the dwelling when submitting the plans to the company who over laid the tree plan onto the site plan to agree on which trees required felling. This wasn't picked up by anyone during the planning process, but I noticed it myself some months later, after planning permission was granted. It was an easy miss by all, because both my house and site plans included the workshop on them. The root zones of both the trees also encroach onto the workshop so would have been marked for removal.

I'm not one for wanting to remove any more trees to the land, as they add to the character, offer privacy, shelter and are great for nature, but in this instance I believe there's a genuine reason that these should be removed with the main concern being danger to life. I'm more than happy to plant something smaller & suitable in replacement at the rear of the property if required upon completion of the build. I've stood at the front of the property & the Rheda estate road to visualise how the landscape would look without them, & with the large trees behind them and to each side that are to be retained, I don't foresee the removal making much difference.

Over the past 12 months of clearing the site by hand, I've recently seen three smaller trees fall for no reason, I've left these for inspection before I remove them, in case anyone needs to see them to support this application. They were a large Rhododendron which are usually very hardy, and two, tall but thin beech trees. The owners of number 4 West end Rheda had a tree fall over earlier this year which caused a lot of damage to the roof slates, fascia & soffits, this was a relatively tall tree, small in diameter and very close to the house, so it never got the chance to lean over too far before it made contact minimising the damage. It was nothing in comparison of size or distance of the two I'm requesting to be felled which could pose a major safety concern.

If you'd like to contact me for further details or to arrange a site visit if the plans don't provide adequate information, feel free to call my mobile on

Kind regards

Daniel Lock.