

## Email to KDBH Forum from Solihull Council

*Date: 04/02/2021 18:02 (GMT+00:00)*

*Subject: Lansdowne - query re tree removal*

*I refer to the above matter, which I have been asked to look into.*

*As you will be aware, there is a TPO on the land, although not all the trees, or species, are protected. Usually, any proposed works to any of the TPO trees (either removal or pruning) would require an application to be submitted for formal consideration. However, in circumstances where a tree(s) are dead or dangerous, there is a much shorter process that may be followed (ie submission of a 5 day notice). This is what has taken place in this case.*

*I visited the land on Tues afternoon. I was able to see the stumps of two trees which were located some way back from the access drive (and public footpath) to Lansdowne Farm; these two trees were not ones included on the TPO, and so no application would have been required to remove them. Three further stumps were visible alongside the frontage to Warwick Road; these appear to be located within area G2 on the TPO.*

*From my investigations so far, it is of note that the owners had contacted the Council to advise of works they wished to carry out. A couple of months or so ago, there was a 5 day notice to remove several trees – three along the frontage, and one other. The first of these related to a tree near to the access drive to Lansdowne, which had uprooted and was leaning against another tree. This would clearly fall within a dead/dangerous category, and was removed some time ago. I understand that the trees adjacent to the Warwick Road (which were removed approx. one week ago) were a horse chestnut and two firs, two of which were dead and the third of which had large cracks and was dangerous.*

*I have spoken to the tree surgeon who carried out the tree works. They are adamant that they have not carried out any unauthorised works, and from the details I have seen/discussed so far, it would appear that this is correct. However, to help clarify this, the tree surgeon is going to send some photos taken before the works, and I have also arranged to meet on site with the Council's tree officer on Monday to double-check the works/locations.*

*I am on leave tomorrow, but am advised that the proposed tree works have been completed, and that there are no further tree works planned. However, I am told that the tree surgeon is likely to be on site tomorrow (and/or possibly Sat) to tidy the site; this is likely to include the (permitted) removal of some undergrowth/scrub and the chopping up of some wood on the site.*