
From: Peter Pitkin <trees@grangeassociation.com>
Sent: 16 February 2022 12:13
To: ruthe davies
Cc: Nigel Ayton; Roger Kellett
Subject: 22/00576/TCO, Esdaile Bank

22/00576/TCO, Esdaile Bank - Proposal to fell mature copper beech

Dear Ruthe,

I feel this case deserves a comment.

This as a substantial, sturdy and attractive tree, providing a focal point at the end of the drive that leads from the entrance to Esdaile Bank (little more than 50m from the gate). It is clearly visible from Kilgraston Road.

Although it appears to have been pollarded at some point, and the main stems subsequently cut back, it has grown back over many years into a visually satisfying, symmetrical shape. Although it is close to a wall and although there are buildings nearby, the wall shows no obvious distortion and, as with the sycamore at 6 Blackford Road, the tree would have been in place probably for at least a century before the buildings were built.

The application cites 'health and safety of the tree' as the reason for felling it but it gives no explanation. There are no obvious signs of decay - the black streak on Photo no.1 appears to be no more than a water stain, and there's another on the other side of the trunk. The trunk is not a simple cylinder, and there may well be internal structural flaws, but if this is the justification I feel that a professional assessment (preferably not by a tree surgeon) should be available to support the proposal.

As it stands the case is less than adequate.

I hope you are able to take these points into account.

Regards,

P.P.

Peter Pitkin, on behalf of the Grange Association.

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