

APPLICATION NO: 22/00044/CACN	OFFICER: Mr Sam Reader
DATE REGISTERED: 11th January 2022	DATE OF EXPIRY : 22nd February 2022
WARD: Leckhampton	PARISH: LECKH
APPLICANT:	Mrs Lucy Knibbs
LOCATION:	71 Leckhampton Road Cheltenham Gloucestershire
PROPOSAL:	Two stone pine trees to rear of property - fell to ground level

REPRESENTATIONS

Number of contributors	2
Number of objections	0
Number of representations	0
Number of supporting	2

69 Leckhampton Road
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL53 0BS

Comments: 1st February 2022
Letter attached.

15 Station Close
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL53 0AB

Comments: 24th January 2022

I would like to offer support to the planning application to fell two stone pine trees to the ground at 71 Leckhampton Road.

We live in one of the properties behind 71 and the removal of the tree would result in more light in our garden and an unobstructed view.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

With kind regards

69, Leckhampton Road
Cheltenham,
Glos, GL53 0BS

Date: 31/01/2022

Mr S Reader
Planning officer
Cheltenham Borough Council
Po Box 12, Municipal Offices
Promenade
Cheltenham
GL50 1PP

Dear Mr Reader

71 Leckhampton Rd: trees removal application ref: 22/00044/CACN

I write ref the above to support the application by the homeowners to fell the Stone Pine trees at the bottom of their garden.

The reasons I support the application are:

- **The trees are inappropriate for a 90 ft long, 30 ft wide town garden.** From Wikipedia: "The stone pine is a coniferous evergreen tree that **can exceed 25 metres (80 feet)** in height, but 12–20 m (40–65 ft) is more typical. In youth, it is a bushy globe, in mid-age an umbrella canopy on a thick trunk, **and, in maturity, a broad and flat crown over 8 m (26 ft) in width**". So, the crown of each tree could be nearly as wide as the garden in due course. Furthermore, pruning the canopy can kill the tree www.nature-and-garden.com states: "...If a stone pine loses its head, it will die...Watch out then for the growth of this conifer if you've got neighbours nearby, because it might lead to problems..". At www.thespruce.com it states: "if you expect to grow it to maturity, be aware that stone pine is a large tree best suited for an expansive property, where it can serve as a specimen tree or can planted in groups to produce a shaded glade or screen".
- The ward councillors state in their online comments: "I am sure they are enjoyed and valued by many in the immediate area"... This assumption could not be further from the truth. The poor lady at 15 Station Close has already made her position clear. These trees completely overshadow her garden, and the situation will get worse as they can take 50 years to mature. They deprive sunlight from our garden and other gardens to the south and west of 71 Leckhampton Rd. The only people who can see the trees (currently) are immediate neighbours and none of us enjoy and value them.
- The ward councillors also state:..." the trees contribute colour, vibrancy and bio-diversity to the locality"...." being a haven for insects, birds and other wildlife". That may be so, but it doesn't mean they shouldn't be felled if inappropriate. The previous owners of no. 71 planted a lovely Magnolia tree which is thriving and is far more appropriate. So replacing inappropriate trees with suitable ones is a far better strategy.
- Impact on infrastructure with resulting expense/compensation: There is a Victorian wall bordering 71 and 15 Station drive and the main sewer/drain for Leckhampton Rd runs parallel to the rear wall through Station drive gardens, so there is the risk of wall and drain damage from the growing tree and it's water-seeking roots. We are familiar with the damage large

trees did to our rear garden wall and they were felled (with planning granted).

I have attached a photo from our property showing how large the trees' canopies are relative to the garden size and the impact on 15 Station Drive.

In summary, I can see no genuine reason why these trees should not be felled.

Yours sincerely

