

QUALIFIED TREE SURGEON
FULLY INSURED

MIKE SULLIVAN
'FOXLEAZE'
28 TOWER ROAD
LIPHOOK
HANTS
GU30 7AR

Tree surgery and felling
Land and woodland clearance
Stump grinding and all related work
Earthworks and Excavator hire

22nd June. 2020.

Mr and Mrs Halliday.
8 Willow Gardens.
Liphook.
Hants.

Dear Mr and Mrs Halliday,

Thank you for your enquiry about the large Maple tree in the rear garden of your property, which we have now looked at together. I would like to make a few observations which I hope will prove helpful.

I know that, as we discussed, the tree has previously had its crown reduced at least twice, the first time by us quite a few years ago, and then more recently as well. The resulting regrowth has been extremely vigorous and the tree is now very large for its location.

I suggest that you think about felling the tree completely now, and for the following reasons:-

- It is a potentially a very large tree: ultimate unpruned height around 90-100 feet. This is too large for the situation the tree is in.
- It is growing very close to your neighbour's house and could cause damage as it continues to enlarge its root system. There is also your own swimming pool to consider, the tree's roots are already lifting the pool surround.
- You have tried to live alongside this large tree for many years, spending money on fairly drastic crown reduction several times. It is worth noting that when we try to carry out repeated reductions of trees we almost always find decay around the previous pruning points, and Maples are especially vulnerable to this rot running back down into the main parts of the tree, as the fungal organism spreads through the woody tissues.

This is often a real problem with urban street trees that were regularly re-pollarded or crown reduced, often they would be completely hollow or rotten because decay had resulted from the repeated pruning.

Although we cannot say at this point that your Maple is unsound, I am just pointing out the risk factors that you could think about when deciding what you would like to apply to EHDC for permission to do. I think there is a strong likelihood that at least some parts of it are not structurally sound. At this stage that would not affect the leafing system within the tree.

I think that the smaller previously lopped tree to the right of this large one should be removed at the same time, and a sensible plan for suitable re-planting along that boundary discussed with EHDC.

I understand from you that the neighbour whose property is overhung by the Maple would like the problem resolved.

Yours sincerely.

