Hello,

I am 23 Main Street, LS17 8EU.

We have a laburnum tree in our garden which lost a large branch in the storms just before Christmas, Dec 2023.

This tree has had a fungal infestation for 8 years or more, with fruiting bodies showing at the base most autumns and discolouration of some branches. Overnight, in the recent storms, a large branch broke off, luckily onto our lawn, not onto the adjoining public footpath. I will attach photos of the tree and the damage.

This address is in the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area. I mostly wrote this Conservation Area Assessment and Management Plan and I am aware that I should inform the City Council of our intention to remove this tree, allowing 6 weeks for consideration.

I discussed this tree with a tree contractor, who suggests that since it has fungal rot it is probably dangerous and should be felled asap.

If a branch fell toward the road, it would land partly on the public footpath, and the roadway. Also, we have grandchildren who often visit and play in the garden (in better weather) Could you please email me in reply asap, to confirm that we can have the tree professionally felled and removed asap, which, if you do not object, would most likely be within the next 7 days.

I had dealings with Richard Lapish maybe 10 years ago, when the Parish Council had to remove some trees in Shadwell to enable a scout Hut to be installed. Is he still with the City Council, as a tree officer?

If not, it would be useful to know the name of the person who is currently in that position. Regards,