

Re: Mature Walnut Tree (T2), The Old Manse, 13 Pelham Rd, Clavering - Proposal

We are applying to fell the mature walnut tree that is present within the cartilage of our property.

The tree is approximately 40' in height and is sited within 5 metres of our house.

The tree is not particularly visible from the road and isn't a high amenity tree from the village street scene point of view.

Due to the tree's size, age and condition, we are becoming increasingly concerned about the risk to our own and neighbouring properties, and the ongoing risk posed to life if the tree were to be brought down, or a large limb detach, during the high wind / multiple storm events which are now being experienced year on year.

Under the TPO process a reduction was carried out on the tree by our arboriculturist about 6 years ago. Since then there has been very little regrowth. Our arboriculturist is suggesting it is in decline.

During inspection in April last year the arboriculturist noted that there appears to be deterioration in the health of the upper canopy, including de-lamination of the bark on one of the large limbs towards the house and woodpecker holes under the unions. In addition it was noted that the tree also has multiple decay pockets in major limbs growing towards house.

As it is a Walnut, we understand they don't react well to hard pruning and the consensus between ourselves and the Arboriculturist would be to fell the tree and replant with an alternative species, of a size that would be which would be more appropriate to the site.

Details of the above inspection and relevant photos were emailed to Uttlesford in April 2023 by our arboriculturist, citing the above preference to now fell and replace the tree. However, to date we understand no response has been received. One year on, we would therefore appreciate if this application could be assessed as a matter of urgency.