

KS/Casefile/TE
Robbie and Barbara Sampson,
Tanglewood cottage,
Ottershaw Park,
Ottershaw,
Surrey.

03 / 0992

16/8/3

Dear Carl,

I will comply with your request to submit an application with a rough programme of works to be phased over five years. I cannot give specifics because I do all the work myself, generally, and the work depends on spotting a leaning tree before it falls or a broken branch, or rubbing, crossing branches on my day off. I am not planning to clear fell any areas. Throughout I shall use common nomenclature not Latin names.

This five-year plan will be instead of my annual reporting as per the 1983 permission from the council. (I refer to a file dating back to 1983, you have copies of the original correspondence sent to Carl Sholz August 2003.

The over-storey continues to benefit from very light thinning- the removal of dead and dying trees and those competing with the better timber trees. In particular we will continue to concentrate on the sycamore and Ash, which have been damaged by Squirrels.

The under story of Hazel are cut on a ten years cycle for Rods. But also to encourage the growth of ground cover and to provide door mouse habitat.

Willow and Alder plantings require thinning and pollarding to hold up the lake banks whilst not overgrowing the lake edges. The stable banks are the nest sites for bank and water voles. Sweet Chestnut, in this area, are subject to crown die back and shed large branches. I will trim up what I can from ladders but will bring in climbers to deal with the largest of trees. We have a number of old Oaks on the property, which shed very large, branches each year. I usually just clear these from the ground but hang ups need removal too or they bring down other

branches or scar the trunks. Dead oaks at Tanglewood Cottage are trimmed, so that they are not dangerous but are otherwise left for Nesting birds and Insects. Stag beetles only lay eggs and pupate in Oak.

Silver Birch is one species that seed into any open ground, Rhododendron, Hornbeam and Sycamore are others. The garden would be a stand of these alone if they weren't rigorously mown or weeded out. Those that grow too big for the pruners need cutting down before they take the light from the woodland floor. Since we Rabbit fenced the garden many years ago the adventitious seeders have tried to take over. We can grow ornamentals and native species without cages. Hundreds have been planted, but even those need thinning and care. Without continual clearing of pathways we would have an impenetrable stand of weed trees.

We intend to carry on planting young trees within the breaks in the canopy. Examples are Oak, Cherry, Lime, Field Maple, Acacia and Beech. Many different evergreens have been planted to add interest for us during our winter walks. Without making something of a garden of this wood, we would never get out into it to continually appreciate the changing seasons and wildlife that lives with us. Currently we have six Roe deer, which browse each winter morning on our Camelias and roses, Hazel and Viburnum.

Where we discover regeneration of native species we try to cut out areas round about and protect the youngsters till they get up and grow into a good shape. These self seeded Oaks and Beech, Scots Pine and Holly are better rooted than any whips I could plant. They will grow on to become the giants of our woodland long after we are gone.

As the work in my garden will only change in intensity when we die or sell, and if you would like to come and inspect, you would see that the original consent was perfectly adequate.

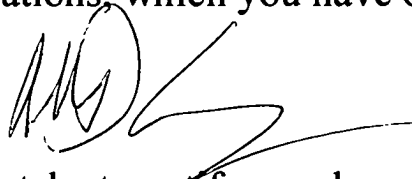
You may come and make an accurate plan of the trees within the TPO at your convenience. The trees do, however, seed, grow, break, die and fall, making a plan but a snapshot in an ongoing changing ecosystem.

Please come and inspect how badly the existing "Open ended consent" has worked over twenty years of my ownership.

FIVE-YEAR PLAN

We will be continuing tree work to conserve varied habitats within a garden environment as per the Forestry commission recommendations, which you have on file.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MD' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Please undertake to notify us when we need to send in our next five-year plan, as annual reports I could manage. Five-yearly reports will not get remembered.