

## **Email of 17 July 20202 from Sue Pickwood to RCC**

For the attention of Magda Waclawik & Justin Johnson

**Temporary TPO Re 2020/0559/CAT** to fell 32 cricket bat willows land to the south of Mill Lane Barrowden (near footpath E321).

We have lived backing this stretch of land for over 34 years. We have been expecting these tree works and have no objection to them being done. We had not expected a TPO to be placed on the trees.

The site where the trees are located is not an historical woodland. It used to be the course of the River Welland, which ran into the water wheel of the Old Mill and out into the Mill pond. We understand that this stretch of the river used to be referred to by villagers as the 'Mill Chase'. In the 1960s Anglian Water straightened the river, put in the weir a little further up stream and bypassed, and isolated, the Old Mill pond. Also in the 1960s the Old Mill was demolished, some of the stone work and the arch where the water wheel used to be are visible when the vegetation dies back.

We do not agree that the trees have 'significant public amenity', they have been grown to be felled and replaced. In about 2004/2005 the previous trees were taken down and the current ones planted. We were aware at the time these cricket bat willows were to be grown as a crop for their wood, with a life span of about 15 years, so due to be replaced about now.

'At the time of inspection, the trees appeared to be in satisfactory health'. I do not know from what position the inspection took place, perhaps from footpath E321, but this is not entirely the case. A number of the trees are damaged, one has completely fallen down (to the rear of 2 The Tannery) and another is nearly down (to the rear of 3 The Tannery). Whether healthy or not they trees were not planted to remain there indefinitely as they are a crop.

The new trees would soon grow. I attach a photo I took of the young trees in September 2009 to illustrate how quickly they grew in just a few years, they are the smaller trees growing either side of the telegraph pole (in the centre of the photo).

These tree works have nothing to do with the proposed housing development on the farm yard of Welland Farm, 11 Main Street, Barrowden. The properties backing onto the trees, and with the view of them, are those in The Tannery, not the farm yard.

We would like to know why this TPO has been issued and wonder if the background to them has been understood.

Regards,

Mrs Susan Pickwood