

Good afternoon, I am Clare and here with my husband Adrian Hare.

I'm so pleased to have this opportunity to talk about our Tree, T6, the

Protected Notable Tree growing at the end of the section of 28 Kimbolton Road and at the side of the Pines Court Road which incidentally is a privately owned road. T6 is a *Sequoiadendron Giganteum*; Wellingtonia/Giant sequoia which has reached a height of 28 m with a crown spread of 13.8 m.

Planted by Mrs Edith Halcombe it has been a locally prominent feature and her granddaughters live here and the wider family have connections with Feilding.

Adrian and I are speaking in support of our submission dated 6th November 2022, called the Clare and Adrian et al on Notable Trees together with

Garry Wood & Barbara Wiley; Max Bryant & Daniel Bryant & Andrew White & Julie White, Lodged by Geoworks Ltd. We also have a list of nearby concerned neighbours.

We are primarily concerned on the Health and Safety Effects of our Tree which in our view could be an imminent threat to the safety of people or property and to peoples' health and social well-being.

During the last few years and especially in 2022 and 2023 weather patterns have changed dramatically; we have extreme weather patterns- drought and torrential rains reminding us that we are experiencing global warming with its warming oceans, consequent extreme downpours of rain at unusual times of the year and a life where we need four or so different layers of clothing at hand. We are not likely to forget the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle, the disruption and heartbreak that it has caused, and the unforgettable damage to our country. Also in hindsight we remember the large oak splitting in Rotorua a few years ago which killed the driver of a car passing by and the more recent fall of a tree in South Street Feilding. With regard to the future weather patterns we have to consider the safety of T6 in storm weather as we would not wish to be part of a tragedy which could have been avoided.

Since we purchased 28 Kimbolton Road as part of our retirement plan the

Sequoia has grown immensely standing now at 28m and is compact near the top. The tree does not have a tap root but has roots spreading out laterally around the tree to a suggested area of 15m diameter. Normally a redwood would be in a forest with support, not standing alone in a residential street where actually it is not readily seen by passersby, unfortunately it drops branches on the neighbouring garage, sometimes heavy enough to damage the roof, and also drops debris on the path of Pines Court. The debris can cover the pathway, is slippery in damp weather and gives poor access to those walking along causing a safety issue.

The height and compactness of the tree is now creating considerable shade, almost completely to the house on its own section, ie 28 Kimbolton Road, and also to 24 and 24A Kimbolton Road.

As the sun moves around 28 Kimbolton Road which is tenanted and is required to provide a warm dry home as per the health standards, the sun is fleetingly present during the morning then later the compact branches of the tree occlude the light and the sun until the very end of the day in summer from the west. This sad situation means that not many plants readily grow at the back of the section.

24 Kimbolton Road is experiencing shade in their garden and recreation area from the north and west due to the tree and now with extra growth occurring 24A Kimbolton Road's home is becoming shaded also.

Its well known that sunlight is essential for human growth and wellbeing.

The health benefits of sunlight include generating the production of Vitamin D to support bone health as an example and promoting good mental health.

Sunlight is also a key source for all plants and in the sections mentioned above which are within central Feilding which was once proudly the most beautiful town in New Zealand there is a decided lack of that essential element Sunlight.

Everyone likes to entertain family, grandchildren and friends in their BBQ areas at home in the afternoons and early evenings but once again this is becoming limited within these sections mentioned.

We are concerned that although the tree is healthy an extreme event could occur resulting in loss of life, and or damage to buildings. The length of the tree If it fell would possibly reach into seven properties being

8 pines court, 60 Warwick St, 2B Pines Court, 2A Pines Court,
24A Kimbolton Road, 24 Kimbolton Road, 26 Kimbolton Road and
28 Kimbolton Road.

We need clarification of our legal position with regard to a T6 Tree tragedy and our subsequent responsibilities for clearing up the damage created We would like to know if the council would undertake to do this.

As I have read on Page 2 under BACKGROUND about the Proposed Plan Change H(b) at point 2.5, PPCH(b) seeks to amend the District Plan to provide clearer provisions for the management of notable trees, and to enable the works to, or removal of, a notable tree without the need for a resource consent if the tree is in poor health or causing an imminent threat to the safety of people or property.

In conclusion and due to all aspects I have mentioned prior and knowing that the Tree has been appreciated and appropriate in Pines Court since it was planted 150 years ago, we feel that it has reached an age where it is no longer as asset in Pines Court and its removal would relieve the anxiety and burden to the people living within its reach. It could possibly be replaced with a smaller attractive tree which everyone could enjoy. To this end we hope to say Farewell to Sequoiadendron Giganteum and are in favour of its removal as per our submission. Thank you to listening to this our submission.
