

# Tolleshunt Knights Parish Council

tkpc.org.uk

Parish clerk: Miss V Banyard

[tkpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:tkpcclerk@gmail.com)

21.11.2024

**Redacted name and  
address**

## **Freedom of Information request Oak trees at Tolleshunt Knights Playing Field**

I refer to your request as above. The Parish Council has taken legal advice on this matter and replies as follows:

You asked us:

1. Reports from Engineers: All reports from structural engineers detailing the subsidence issues and their recommendations.
2. Arboriculturist Reports: Detailed reports from qualified arboriculturists that support the conclusion that these trees are contributing to subsidence.
3. Root Barrier Works Quotes: Quotes received for performing root barrier works as an alternative to felling the trees.
4. Biodiversity Policy: A copy of the Parish Council's Biodiversity Policy, which should guide decisions on environmental conservation.
5. Communications: All emails and letters sent from councillors and the clerk regarding this matter.
6. Minutes: The minutes from the council meetings where the decision to fell these trees was discussed and agreed upon. This should include any discussion on alternative solutions and the exploration of funding streams for root barrier works. It is imperative to know what steps have been taken to seek the necessary funds for these alternatives.

We received your request on 22.7.2024.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

## **Our response**

1. The Council does hold this information, however, we believe that it is exempt from disclosure under section 42 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (information covered by legal professional privilege). For the avoidance of doubt, the Council is not prepared to waive privilege.
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6. The minutes of Council meetings can be accessed vis this link – <https://www.tkpc.org.uk/meetings-minutes/>

## **Next steps**

You can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days. To do this, please contact Vysian Banyard, Parish Clerk via email at [tkpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:tkpcclerk@gmail.com) or by post at;

Vysian Banyard,  
Parish Clerk,  
Tolleshunt Knights Parish Council  
21 D'Arcy Way,  
Tolleshunt D'Arcy,  
Maldon,  
Essex CM9 8UD

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: [www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints).

Yours sincerely

V M Banyard  
Parish clerk