

The Pound, East Budleigh.

You are of course aware that the mature Chestnut tree adjacent to the highway on the Pound is already infected by bleeding canker and honey fungus and that the East Devon Council Tree Officer has recommended that there is no option other than to remove it and replace with a tree of a species not susceptible to such problems, such as one of the variety of oaks. May both Dr Ward of Two Hedges, and myself, formally request that the Parish Council consider the following:

- 1) That the replacement Oak tree be made subject to a TPO if it is not already so designated. We have the possibility, as a replacement, to plant an immediately available oak sapling, one which, fortuitously, would help the village to commemorate this year's centenary of World War 1. During a visit to the WW 1 cemeteries at Ypres, Dr Ward collected a number of acorns shed by trees growing between the graves. One of these acorns has produced a sapling, now over 10 feet tall, which is healthy and disease free. It is presently growing in East Budleigh in the garden of Two Hedges, but will shortly have to be removed as it grows ever larger. It can be viewed at any time and is available for transplanting from now onwards.
- 2) That the nearby Oak sapling behind the seat, be also made subject to a TPO unless so designated.
- 3) That the Council apply for the Barn sited to the rear of the Pound, to become a Listed Building. I understand it is home to a population of bats and as such, should be treated with the utmost consideration.

The Pound is obviously of great historic interest and an important feature of the village. It is moreover one of the few features left to the village from the past, and as such, I suggest we owe a duty to future generations to retain its character and ambience and I am sure that you would personally support that aim.

If it will be of any help, I have attached 3 shots of the problems to the Chestnut trees, as pointed out by the Inspector yesterday. I intend to place a page on the village web site today, but think it best not to send to the Parish Mag or the Journal at this stage, leaving it up to you.

Regards,

Peter Bowler.

