

# Epsom Civic Society

shaping the future, safeguarding the past

25<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Ms Ruth Ormella  
Head of Planning  
Town Hall  
EPSOM  
KT18 5BY

Dear Ruth

Ref – The Worple Road Conservation Area - Infringement

I apologise for addressing this letter to your good self but I am not sure of the correct council manager who deals with such infringements.

We are concerned at the newly completed tree and hedge cutting works in Richmond Close. This is a lovely road situated within the Worple Road Conservation Area.

We write in support of the residents of Richmond Close. There is a mature hedge which forms the western boundary along the full length of the close. This hedge is owned by various properties in Worple Road and forms the end boundary of their back gardens. The hedge as a whole acts as a mini nature reserve including birds nests and other wildlife. The perimeter strip at the rear of the hedge is owned by the residents of Richmond Close and maintained by them up to the kerb line.

One of the properties in Worple Road, 4 Little Orchards, have removed their section of the hedge and replaced it with a fence and a pedestrian access gate.

We do not believe that this is acceptable under The Worple Road Conservation Area Article 4 Direction 2011, Schedule 6. This relates to the alteration of a fence, gate or other means of enclosure. We note, that if all of the Worple Road adjacent properties did likewise, then it would change the whole nature of this beautiful environment.

Attached is a statement, signed by all of the Richmond Close house owners, expressing their concern at this infringement.

Please would it be possible to support the residents in enforcing the Article 4 direction and getting the hedge replanted.

Yours sincerely

Bob Hollis (On behalf of The Epsom Civic Society)

