



Item 7.2 Petition - Request for Removal of Tree, Wordsworth Street, St Kilda

A Petition containing 7 signatures, was received from local residents of St Kilda.

The Petition states the following: -

We are petitioning for the removal of the tree at the rear of 83 Spenser Street St. Kilda, on Wordsworth Street.

The tree is a semi-mature Lagunaria patersonii (Norfolk Island Hibiscus).

We are in a unique situation as far as this tree is concerned because our property has 3 street frontages. Our only open usable space is our rear courtyard which is overshadowed by this tree.

Our concerns are not just medical but also that we cannot use our courtyard because for most months of the year it is covered in prickly tiny spores that get into our clothes our hair and the soles of our feet. We cannot hang out washing and we cannot leave our outdoor furniture out as the spores get stuck and remain in the material. Our grandson has asthma and we are afraid he could be affected by the spores.

I myself have itching associated with clothes that I put on when they have dried outside.

The spores are likened by some including your 2 different tree people who came to see us, to asbestos! They have to wear protective suits to trim these pests.

We received a call from one of your arborists who told us that the tree is a concern and that he would support our petition for the removal of the tree were the council to come to him for advice.

This is an urgent matter for us at this time when because we are in the age group most at risk were we to contract COVID-19, we are restricted from visiting our family and grandchild and the only place we can see them is in our courtyard which is unusable because of the tree.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the petition and that officers provide a response at the next available Council Meeting.

TRIM FILE NO: F20/1

ATTACHMENTS Nil