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Street Tree a Survivor

The City is pleased to advise that the poisoned Coral Tree (*Erythrina Sykesii*) on the verge of 180 Mill Point Road will survive according to the Arboriculturist engaged to report on its health.

The tree was poisoned by unknown person/s early in 2007 with a chemical called Glyphosate, which is an organo-phosphate herbicide commonly known as Roundup. The City and Police investigated the matter at the time but Police were unable to lay charges as there wasn't sufficient evidence to lead to successful prosecution.

The City engaged Arbor Logic to report on the health of the tree in February 2007. At that time it appeared that the tree may not survive but a follow-up inspection and report was carried out in late December and a further report received in January 2008.

The Arboriculturist has advised that the tree will survive but will need some remedial pruning to remove dead and diseased wood - this work will be implemented in the next few weeks.

Mayor James Best said he was sure many nearby residents would be happy the tree is going to survive.

"This tree is thought to be about 30 to 40 years old and some residents were quite upset at the prospect it may not recover and might need to be removed," he said.

"It is a beautiful tree with a real amenity value for the street and it would have been a great shame if the poisoning attempt had been successful."

Additionally, on request from the City the consultant has recommended how the proposed crossover into the property at 180 Mill Point Road should be constructed to assist the continuing health of the tree. Planning and City Environment staff are now liaising with the builders regarding the crossover design and construction.

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