

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011
DM8 (Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features)

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.
Conservation Area: Not applicable.

Councillor Peter Oliver

Number of representations received: 0

[illegible]

7 Planning Considerations

- 7.1 Having regard to the relevant policies of the development plan it is considered that the main issues arising from this application are:
- Whether the degree of pruning works requested would undermine the amenity value of this tree and whether this could also be harmful to the ongoing health and vitality of the tree.
- 7.2 This report relates specifically to assessing the proposed works rather than generally inspecting the tree's health and condition in any detail.
- 7.3 No concerns are cited over the condition, damage or stability. No supporting evidence is provided to demonstrate that the oak trees need to be reduced and visually they are pleasing and appear to have regained a natural form since the previous reduction.
- 7.3 The oaks are part of a larger group and offer good amenity being on the roadside. Lifting for highway clearance is reasonable, but the reduction is not warranted.
- 7.4 The macrocarpa has been reduced before so it is reasonable to re-reduce this as this species is known to have a higher likelihood of failure from attachment points once apical dominance is lost. Lifting to clear the highway is reasonable. The resultant canopy mass will be much reduced and may not be sufficient to support the tree long term.
- 7.5 The trees provide visual amenity to multiple properties, offer screening and the canopy cover contributes to the ecosystem services of the area.
- 7.6 The two conifers are leylandii and have also been reduced in the past. As above.
- 7.7 The two sycamores are small diameter self-set poles and removing them is considered acceptable garden maintenance.
- 7.8 The crown reduction on the oaks would have a detrimental impact on the amenity value of the area, and wildlife, and would not be in accordance with Policy CS16 and DM8.1 of the Core Strategy (2011).

8 Conclusion

It is recommended that the Council issues a split decision

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Place be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for works 2 No. Oak reduce to previous pruning points

1. The oak trees area an important feature in the local landscape and appear to be in good physiological and structural condition. The proposed works would result in undue loss and detriment to the visual amenities of the locality and local wildlife. It is therefore contrary to policy CS16 and DM8.1 of the Havant Borough Core Strategy 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

2. That the Executive Head of Place be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for works 2No. Oak - Crown raise to 5.5m over road.

1No. Macrocarpa - reduce to previous pruning points and crown raise to 5.5m over road.

2No. Conifers (Leylandii) - reduce to previous pruning points and crown raise to 5.5m over road.

Fell 2No. Sycamores not to exceed 150mm in diameter at 1.5m above ground level.

- 1 The oak trees area an important feature in the local landscape and appear to be in good physiological and structural condition. The proposed works would result in undue loss and detriment to the visual amenities of the locality and local wildlife. It is therefore contrary to policy CS16 and DM8.1 of the Havant Borough Core Strategy 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 2 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall not be carried out otherwise than in full accordance with all relevant content of BS 3998 (2010).
Reason: In the interests of tree health and safety.
- 3 The tree pruning/surgery for which consent is hereby granted shall not result in:

(a) Any single pruning wound being more than 150mm in diameter.

Reason: To ensure the correct trees are removed.
- 4 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than one year from the date of this decision notice.
Reason: To control the timing of the works

