

Houghton, Michelle

From: Steve Lawrence <Steve.Lawrence@conservancy.co.uk>
Sent: 19 April 2021 16:37
To: Havant Planning and Development Mailbox New
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: APP/21/00350 - 11D Salterns Lane, Hayling Island, PO11 9PH
Attachments: Tree in 2015.pdf

Dear Andrew

Site - 11D Salterns Lane, Hayling Island, PO11 9PH

Proposal - APP/21/00350 - 1No.Oak (T1 on plan) - fell and grind stump, subject to TPO 1380 within G1.

Fully delegated Officer decision by Chichester Harbour Conservancy

Recommendation – No objection, subject to the Council's Tree Officer agreeing with the agent's assessment of the tree's general condition and amenity value as a tree subject of a Tree Preservation Order.

This property forms part of the shoreline to Chichester Harbour AONB (My Lord's Pond inlet). Trees make a very positive feature and are part of the attractive character of the shoreline. I attach some photos I took of this tree in 2015. It appeared to be alive/in leaf, albeit poorly shaped to my layman's eyes at that time.

I note the agent for the applicant considers the tree (protected by TPO1380) to have low amenity value and states – "...this tree is in decline showing evidence of extensive die back within its crown. The base and roots of the tree show evidence of decay with loose necrotic bark present and is a potential health and safety hazard". The applicant intends to replant with an ash tree.

It is not clear what the agent's qualifications are although the company name says "Skyfell tree specialists". Reviewing the Company website Mr Sprat is listed as being a certified arborist, having completed a horticultural qualification in 2004.

If the Council's tree Officer considers the agent's claims about the health and condition of the tree to be true, The Conservancy would reluctantly support the tree's removal and replacement. Given issues surrounding ash dieback, might it be more prudent to plant a different species of tree and owing to a new tree taking a while to establish could any enhancement to the AONB be encouraged by asking the applicant to put two trees back to heavy nursery standard?

Yours sincerely

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