

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your email. Given the test results and the dieback which was evident in the canopy last time I saw it I would suggest you submit an application to fell the tree and include the test results to support the application. Alternatively if you feel it has declined further you could submit a 5 day notice of intent to fell the tree.

I have attached the application form for you.

Kind regards,

Maria Stewart - Arboricultural Officer
Neighbourhood Support

East Hampshire District Council, Penns Place, Petersfield, GU31 4EX
Havant Borough Council, Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, PO9 2AX
Tel: 01730 234214
Email: maria.stewart@easthants.gov.uk

www.easthants.gov.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/EastHantsDC/>
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www.havant.gov.uk
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From: Chris Tingley
Sent: 19 February 2020 16:01
To: Stewart, Maria
Subject: 1 Copse Close, Widley

Good afternoon Maria,
Please see below email regarding our tree. I think we will just have to keep an eye on it. What will happen if we needed to work on it? Is it better to apply to remove the TPO on it now so we don't have to worry if something needs to be done in a hurry? Obviously we really want the tree to survive and recover as it is a great feature in the garden with all the wildlife it attracts. And I would have nowhere to hang my hammock.....
I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards

Chris Tingley
Contracts Manager
ICE Facilities Management



From: Sally Simpson
Sent: 19 February 2020 11:43
To: Chris Tingley
Subject: 1 Copse Close, Widley

Dear Mr Tingley

Thank you for your enquiry and swab which was passed through to us in January 2020 and which we tested for the presence of bacteria known to cause rotting of live stem tissues on oak trees, and in association with the Agrilus beetle former syndrome called Acute Oak Decline (AOD). The photo evidence in photo no. 111954 clearly indicates the exit holes of the Agrilus beetle confirming past presence in the tree. The presence of exit holes is also indicative that the tree is in poor health as these beetles are unable to colonise healthy trees. The bleeding patches on the tree indicated in the photograph are not entirely typical of those associated with AOD, nonetheless the swab did test positive for three of the bacterial species associated with AOD but was negative for the key bacterial species (*Brenneria goodwinii*). The tree also shows severe crown dieback and thinning with the shedding of fine twigs. These crown symptoms are typical of Chronic Oak Decline (COD). It is thus clear to me that the tree is suffering from at least one if not two forms of oak decline. My view on the future survival of this tree is not very positive and I think that in the short to medium term this tree will die. However, oak trees are very robust and can be resilient and so this is only a view and not a foregone conclusion. If the tree poses any health and safety risk this should be taken into consideration in the management plan.

Should you wish to monitor the tree and have it re-tested for all the bacterial species associated with AOD when the bleeds are more active in the Spring please feel free to ask for another swab test.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Kind regards

(Sent on behalf of Dr Sandra Denman, Senior Pathologist in Oak Declines)

Sally Simpson
AOD Administration Officer
Forest Research