

Recommendation: **REFUSE TPO CONSENT**

Reduce branches of 1No. Ash (T3) on eastern sector back 1.5 to 2.5m (back to stems in line with driveway edge). Subject to TPO 1795.

4 Policy Considerations

National Planning Policy Framework

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011

DM8 (Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features)

Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations) July 2014

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.

Conservation Area: Not applicable.

5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations

6 Community Involvement

This application was publicised in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice for Publicity of Planning Applications approved at minute 207/6/92 (as amended), as a result of which the following publicity was undertaken:

Number of neighbour notification letters sent: 9

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 0

Comment	Officer Comment

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 these trees and whether this could also be harmful to their ongoing health and vitality.

7.2 My inspection related specifically to assessing the proposed works rather than generally inspecting the tree's health and condition in any great detail. I visually inspected the tree from ground level and the following report deals with the relevant issues that have been raised on site, in the application form and from my site observations.

7.3 This application to undertake work to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order relates to the proposed pruning of one mature Ash tree situated to the rear of 98 Bedhampton Road, adjacent to the parking area and Lester Avenue.

The applicant wishes to prune branches over the driveway by 1.5-2.5m to reduce the negative effects of branches growing towards the roof and to give clearance over the communal driveway.

The tree has already been significantly reduced. It has a high canopy giving adequate clearance over the driveway and the branches are considered to be adequately clear of the property.

The pruning proposed will potentially have a negative impact on the tree as it will leave large wounds for fungal pathogens to enter and may also send the tree into shock and decline. The application has not been submitted on the basis that the tree is in poor condition and as far as it was reasonable to see the tree appeared to be in a fair condition given the pruning that has already been undertaken. The tree is considered to be a prominent specimen in the street scene.

8 Conclusion

The work proposed is considered to be excessive and unnecessary at this time and therefore the application should be refused.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for application APP/19/00136 subject to the following conditions

- 1 The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the deposited application is excessive and unnecessary at this time and could have a negative impact on the health of the tree.
It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2018.