

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

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: 6

Number of site notices: Not applicable.

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 4

Comment	Officer Comment
Dear Sir/Madam Felling of Holm Oak Trees in Culver Drive, Hayling island I live at 1 The Glade which is next to 10 Culver Drive. I am writing to you to say that I strongly object to all of the Holme Oak Trees in the garden of my neighbours being cut down. The area does not have many trees left and each one is valuable to us in many ways: they provide homes for birds and insects, the leaves process carbon dioxide and release oxygen, and the people who live in The Glade obtain much enjoyment from seeing them every day. I understand that one of the trees may be diseased, so would not object to this one being cut down as long as another tree could be planted in its stead. We had always understood that there was a protection order on these trees which is why they have stood up to now. Does this suddenly no longer mean anything? I do hope that you will take my objections seriously and do your best to save all, or all but one, of these trees. My niece is sending this email on my behalf as I do not have access to a computer. I have dictated it to her. Please respond to me by emailing her. Your faithfully	Comments noted

Miss D H Higgs	
We moved onto the Warren Sands Estate in 2009. These trees have been a major problem ever since we moved here. They are huge - far to big for such a small area and dominate the house in which they sit. They shed leaves and seeds all year long - meaning our roads and paths are constantly messy and have caused blockages in the main drains. The winds - which can be strong so close to the sea - cause much of this debris to end up in our garden and those of our neighbours. They are ugly to look at - and I would be delighted if they are removed!	Comments noted
Dear Sir/Madam I live in the property over the road. I have read the reports submitted on the trees in question. I understand that tree T3 may be dangerous and may need to be removed. However the report also states that the other trees have little amenity value. With this I strongly disagree. The glade has no other trees and the whole estate has very few. In my opinion it would be a tragedy to cut down these remaining trees. They provide homes for birds and are to me are a visual delight. They soften the whole environment. I also understood from the builder that there was a protection order on these trees. I would also request that if there is a way of saving T3 I think it should be done. If not then as suggested replacement trees should be planted. The obvious problem with replacing them all is that they would take a long time to mature. I hope you take note of my heartfelt comments when coming to a decision. I know my sister in law who lives across the road and is a direct neighbour to N011 feels the same way. Yours sincerely Yvonne Hawley Higgs	Comments noted

As a resident nearby to this part of Hayling I wish to object to the felling of these four oak trees. I do not know whether the bats which visit my garden every warm summer evening are also heavily relying on these trees, but I do know that Hayling Island has lost far too many of its large trees already and my small garden cannot provide all the insects that these fabulous small mammals need to catch. Although Holm Oak is not a native tree, it provides an important link in the food chain. Its catkins provide a source of pollen for bees and other insects, while its dense, evergreen canopy offers year-round shelter for birds. It is long lived and tolerates the salt-spray from the sea, unlike many trees which might be planted in its place. Please consider continuing to protect these oaks which add to the character of this small and special estate. Yes, they may inconvenience by shedding catkins, acorns and leaves, but they add to the natural life, biodiversity and beauty of the island.	Comments noted
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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 This application to carry out work to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order relates to the proposed felling of 4 Holm Oaks located in a group to the north of the house.

Culver Drive is a private housing estate and the trees are most visible within this estate and can only be glimpsed from Southwood Road. An Arboricultural report has been submitted to support the application to fell and the grounds of the felling are on the safety element and poor overall condition of the group. T3 has had a Picus test undertaken which shows an area of altered timber. It is wind blown and leaning into T4. On visual assessment I agree with the Consultants report that it is a poor quality specimen which should be removed.

Although T3 could be removed to leave the remaining 3 trees the rest of the group

have outgrown their location and it is not considered reasonable to expect them to be retained. They have already had to be pruned significantly on the property side leaving them with one sided canopies. They are the wrong trees in the wrong location and should be removed and replaced.

Three objections have been received and one of support. The objections refer to the amenity value of the trees and the biodiversity aspect. The trees are on a private estate therefore their public amenity value is very limited and biodiversity is not something that can be taken into consideration when dealing with tree work applications. The applicant should however undertake the necessary tests to ensure there are not bats present before undertaking any work.

8 **Conclusion**

Permit

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/18/00769

(A)

(B) for the following reasons/subject to the following conditions

- 1 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.
- 2 The trees to be felled shall be replaced with 3 Buckthorn to be planted in the rear garden of the property equally spaced along the fence adjacent to Culver Drive and at a height of at least 1.2 metres when such replacement planting is carried out.
Reason: To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.