

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

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: 4

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 carry out work to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order relates to 8 large mature Oak trees located on public open space at Well Meadow and belonging to Vivid Housing Association.

On behalf of the housing association, an Arboricultural Consultant has carried out a Visual Tree Assessment and Resistograph tests on the trees subject of this application.

Three Oaks (numbered T3172, T3173 and T3176) are to be pollarded. Major decay has been noted on these trees and the results of the resistograph confirm that there is little functional wood remaining and it is not reasonable given the high target area, to maintain these trees at their current size.

Oak trees numbered T3174, T3175, T3177, T3178 are to be crown reduced and maintained, as far as it is reasonable to see they appear to be in a satisfactory condition, and although defects and decay has been noted in the report, the results of the

resistograph show that the trees have not decayed to such an extent that pollarding is necessary at this time. The reduction will take some of the weight out of the trees and maintain them in their location.

Oak numbered T3179 has not long since been crown reduced and the intention is to lightly thin to remove some epicormic growth in the canopy and any dead or damaged branches.

The works proposed are all considered to be necessary and proportionate for the trees and the agent will be undertaking replacement planting of 3 Oaks to plan for a time when the trees may eventually need to be removed. This way, new trees will already be in place for that time.

Further to the application a site meeting was requested and held with Arboricultural Consultant where the technical aspects of the case were discussed and agreed.

The trees should continue to be regularly monitored.

8 **Conclusion**

Permit

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/18/00248

(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 tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 26/04/19.
Reason: To control the timing of the works
- 3 Three Oak trees to be planted in a position as near as practicable to the position of the trees to be pollarded and at a height of at least 1.8 metres when such replacement planting is carried out.
Reason: To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.