

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

Number of neighbour notification letters sent: 3

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 The application relates to two Oak trees that form part of an area TPO and are located in the rear garden of a property in Barwell Grove, Emsworth. The trees have heavily restricted views due to the close set properties in the street scene. Despite their limited visual amenity, there are glimpses of the upper crown above the rooftops.

The first of the Oaks is a mature specimen located close to the eastern, rear boundary of the garden. The base is surrounded by leaf litter and shrubs, with a minor amount of Ivy growth on the lower main stem, however there are no visible signs of poor basal condition. The main stem is leaning to the north and has minor epicormic growth. There is evidence of previous pruning works and some amount of deadwood, however the crown appears to be displaying normal vigour and vitality. The original application's specified works were considered excessive, therefore lesser works were negotiated with the applicant, which will reduce shading to the garden and the property while providing a reasonable level of cyclical management to reshape and rebalance the crown.

The second Oak is located close to the northern boundary fence, which adjoins the neighbouring rear garden. The base is surrounded by leaf litter and other shrubs. This relatively small Oak is heavily suppressed due to the other mature trees nearby and this tree will never amount to a good specimen. It has no public amenity value and its removal will not be detrimental to the local landscape. Additionally, due to the small size of the garden with the remaining large Oak, a condition has not been added for mitigation replanting since the larger Oak would prevent natural light and space for its growth.

8 Conclusion

Recommend Permission

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00767 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 pruning/surgery for which consent is hereby granted shall not exceed the following: Crown reduce height of 1No. Oak by 2.5m and reduce lateral growth over garden by 2m, deadwood where necessary; Fell 1No. Oak. Both trees subject to A1 of TPO 0996.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree(s) and its/their importance in the local landscape.
- 3 The tree to be felled shall be replaced by an Oak (*Quercus robur*) to be planted in a position as near as practicable to the position of the tree to be felled and at a height of at least 2 metres when such replacement planting is carried out.
Reason: To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.
- 4 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 11/09/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works.