

Site Address: 26A St Catherines Road, Hayling Island, PO11 0HF
 Proposal: Removal of eastern main scaffold limb (diameter 450mm); removal of two lowest Eastern limbs on remaining tree and deadwood 1No. Austrian Pine.
 Subject to G1 of TPO 1123.

Application No: APP/17/00953	Expiry Date: 25/10/2017
Applicant: Mr Januszczak	
Agent:	Case Officer: Jamie Gargett
Ward: Hayling West	

1 Site Description

2 Planning History

3 Proposal

4 Policy Considerations

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011

Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations) July 2014

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: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 1

Comment	Officer Comment
I'm sure the Council's tree man is at the top of his game but I just wanted to make an obvious observation. A 15% lean seems to me not to be excessive. One only has to look in other public places for example (especially in) the park, Billy Trail and alongside highways. There are many trees with similar leans which presumably the council would fell if they were a danger to the public.	Noted and the application has been amended to remove two limbs rather than felling the tree so as to reduce the risk of tree failure.

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 a mature Austrian Pine tree located in the rear garden of a property in St Catherine's Road, Hayling Island. The tree is largely obscured by the property and other mature trees within the curtilage of the land. Therefore the tree possesses minimal amenity value and has no contribution to the street scene.

The main stem is surrounded by lawn and there are signs of historic root plate movement. There is a minor amount of shedding bark on the western sector of the lower main stem and the main stem has a slight lean towards the east. There are three major scaffold limbs, with one weighted heavily on the eastern sector. There is an included union between the remaining upright scaffold limbs, which is not uncommon for this species. Within the crown there is some deadwood and the southern sector possesses sparse foliage, however the remaining crown appears to

be displaying normal vigour and vitality.

The original application proposed the felling of the tree due to the leaning main stem and the scaffold limb weighted on the eastern sector. However, the condition of the tree would not be considered sufficiently poor enough to justify its felling. The growth pattern of the remaining two scaffold limbs have compensated to a certain degree for the weight distribution of the crown. Additionally, there is a good clearance between the dwelling and furthest extending branches. Since the tree is located to the north of the building, neither it is not causing a significant shading nuisance to the residents. However, since the tree is located within a residential garden, some works would be considered necessary to redress the balance from its historic plate movement to counter the potential wind throw from prevailing winds. Therefore lesser works were negotiated to remove the major scaffold limb on the eastern sector, since an inspected from a reputable tree surgeon has highlighted signs of previous fracturing with excessive resin exudation. Additionally, two smaller limbs have been identified for removal, which will further aid the redistribution of weight within the crown. This would minimise the potential risk from any mechanical failures within the crown and due to the minimal amenity value of the tree, it would not cause detriment to the visual amenity within the street scene. While the large pruning wounds will increase the risk of pathogens infecting the tree, this must be weighed against the safety concerns of limb failure within a high risk target area of a residential garden below.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00953 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: Removal of eastern main scaffold limb (diameter 450mm); removal of two lowest Eastern limbs on remaining tree and deadwood 1No. Austrian Pine. Subject to G1 of TPO 1123.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree(s) and its/their importance in the local landscape.
- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 25/10/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works