

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: 10

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.

The tree subject to this application is a large mature Oak located within a planting area between the highway and a block of residential apartments to the southern aspect of the site, there is currently a distance of 5m between the edge of the tree canopy and the apartments at its closest point. The Oak is very prominent in the street scene offering un restricted views from the public highway and adds significant public amenity value to the area.

The application is to crown reduce the Oak by both lateral spread and overall height, the works specified and applied for are considered excessive and would impact negatively

on the public amenity currently offered by the tree to the local area and street-scene. Due to this assessment lesser works of a 1.5m lateral reduction to the East and West and pruning back to previous pruning points over the highway have been offered by the Council but declined by the applicant.

The reasons behind the application have been taken into account and the tree has been viewed from inside the applicants apartment, however the works applied for would not significantly benefit the situation in terms of the trees proximity to the building and would damage the visual appeal of the Oak.

The local ward councillors were consulted on this application and undertook a site visit with the case officer and applicant to view the tree in relation to the applied for works and the decision for a delegated decision in line with the case officer's recommendations was made.

An application by the current applicant to fell the tree has been declined by the council and previously works to prune the tree have been approved in line with the applicant's tree surgeon.

8 Conclusion

Recommend refusal.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00965

(A)

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

- 1 The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and the proposed tree works would result in undue loss and detriment to the visual amenities of the locality. It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.