

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

Remove lowest branch (southern sector) of 1No. Beech (T1), crown lift to 5m over highway, reduce laterals on southern sector by 2.5m, crown reduce upto 1.5m on east and west sector. Remove lowest branch (northern sector) of 1No. Oak (T2), crown reduce 1No. branch on north sector by 2.5m, crown reduce higher branches upto

1.5m, and deadwood as necessary. Both trees subject to TPO 1727.

4 Policy Considerations

National Planning Policy Framework

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011

DM8 (Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features)

Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations) July 2014

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.

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: 7

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 relates to both a mature Beech and Oak tree found at a property in Hayling Island. The Beech tree is located close to the north boundary line with the public highway with the Oak located at the southern boundary within the rear curtilage of the property.

The Beech tree commands unrestricted views from the street scene, possessing a high public amenity value. The base of the Beech tree is partially surrounded by other plants and shrubs, showing no clear signs of poor basal condition. The main stem forks into three major scaffold limbs at an approximate height of 1m. The crown a southern bias and shows evidence of previous pruning, however the tree appears to be displaying what is normal in vigour and vitality. The application includes crown lifting the canopy to a height of 5m over the highway, which would be reasonable maintenance to allow the free flow of traffic along the road. The proposed works to crown reduce the southern sector by 2.5m and by 1.5m on the eastern and western sectors would not only serve to provide sensible cyclical management for a tree of this size and location, but also to rebalance the canopy's shape. This would not detriment the overall health of the tree or result in any significant loss of amenity value that the tree adds to the street scene.

The Oak has limited views from the street scene with only glimpses between the neighbouring properties, however the tree contributes well to the tree cover in the area. The main stem is surrounded by lawn and shows no obvious signs of poor basal condition. There is a old metal ladder that rests on the main stem and the tree's growth has enveloped the top of the ladder. The crown has a heavy northern bias and shows evidence of previous pruning works within the canopy. The tree appears to be displaying what is normal in vigour and vitality. The specified works to remove the lowest branch and a crown reduction of 2.5m, both on the northern sector, would serve to rebalance the canopy, while the reduction of 1.5m to the higher branches would provide general cyclical management without the loss of any public amenity and without causing detriment to the health of the Oak.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00363

(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 pruning/surgery for which consent is hereby granted shall not exceed the following: Remove lowest branch (southern sector) of 1No. Beech (T1), crown lift to 5m over highway, reduce laterals on southern sector by 2.5m, crown reduce upto 1.5m on east and west sector. Remove lowest branch (northern sector) of 1No. Oak (T2), crown reduce 1No. branch on north sector by 2.5m, crown reduce higher branches upto 1.5m, and deadwood as necessary. Both trees subject to TPO 1727.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the trees and 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 29/05/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works.