

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

GEN/15/00489 - Tree works., ,13/05/2015 16:41:38

3 Proposal

Crown reduce by 4m 1No. Oak, subject to TPO 0855.

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: 8

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 a mature Oak tree located within the front curtilage of properties in Oakley Gardens. The tree possesses unrestricted views from the street scene and as such represents a high public amenity value.

The base is surrounded by lawn and there were no visible signs of poor basal condition. The upper main stem and scaffold limbs are heavily clad with dead Ivy stems. There is more than an average amount of deadwood within the canopy and the upper crown possesses relatively sparse foliage. There are signs of previous pruning works and the tree appears to be displaying slightly reduced vigour and vitality. The crown has a slight bias towards to the north and the furthest extending branches on the western sector are in close proximity to the dwellings in Oakley Gardens.

The original application specified works that were considered to be excessive and would have proved detrimental to the amenity value of the tree and to its health. The proposed 4m crown reduction would likely have sent the tree into a state of shock from which it would have not recovered. Lesser works were negotiated with the applicant, which would provide a reasonable level of cyclical management, while still achieving the stated reason for the works to bring the furthest extending branches away from the residential buildings. This would maintain a harmonious relationship between the tree and the residents without causing detriment to its health or to the visual amenity in the street scene.

8 Conclusion

Recommend Permission

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00807

(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: Crown lift to a height of 3m and crown reduce by 2m, reduce lateral branches closest to 1 Oakley gardens to provide a 2m clearance of 1No. Oak, subject to TPO 0855.

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 09/10/18.

Reason: To control the timing of the works