

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 0

Comment	Officer Comment
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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 proposed works to Field Maple in Emsworth. The tree is located in the rear garden of the property close to the rear boundary and therefore the tree is heavily restricted from the street scene's view and possesses minimal amenity value, however there are some distance views of the tree further down the road.

The tree is a mature specimen with it's main stem surrounded by lawn, leaf litter and dense wild flowers. The root system is partially exposed with the start of some minor cavities at the base of the main stem with a small amount wet rot present. There are signs of previous pruning within the canopy and the tree appears to be displaying what is normal in vigour and vitality. The crown extends over several gardens with the stated reason for the application being that the tree is causing excessive shading to the residential properties nearby and not with regards to the tree's condition.

The original application request a crown reduction of 4m in height and 2m to the sides, however this would have been excessive with the potential of putting the tree into a state of shock, from which it may not have recovered and would have eventually lead to it's decline and death. Lesser works were agreed with the applicant to reduce the tree's height by 2.5m and crown lift to a height of 4m above the gardens, which would extend the tree's useful lifespan. This would reshape the canopy and would serve to reduce the shading nuisance currently being experienced, without causing detriment to the overall health of the tree while also reducing the weight of the canopy. Since the tree has restricted views from the street scene, the works would not detriment the amenity value of the area.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00375 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 by 2.5 metres and crown lift to 4 metres 1No. Field Maple subject to TPO 1076.
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 02/06/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works.