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Site Address: Trees to west of 533 Southleigh Road and 1-3 Allendale Avenue, Emsworth

Proposal: Crown reduce 1No. Oak by 3m; Fell 1No. Turkey Oak; Fell 1No. Ash; Remove 8 lowest laterals on east side of 1No. Oak and reduce east side of crown by 2m. All trees subject to AI of TPO 0996.

Application No: APP/17/00644                      Expiry Date: 09/08/2017

Applicant: Mr A Skeet  
Norse SE

Agent:                                              Case Officer: Jamie Gargett

Ward: Emsworth

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

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## **1     Site Description**

Trees to west of 533 Southleigh Road and 1-3 Allendale Avenue, Emsworth

## **2     Planning History**

97/58221/001 - Crown reduction of all trees by a maximum of 20%, crown raise the trees to between 4m and 6m and deadwood the Oak and Horse Chestnut trees which are covered by A1 of TPO 996 ,  
PERM,09/02/1998

93/58221/000 - Raise crown of southernmost H/chestnut to 7m; remove major limb, raise crown to 7m & reduce crown 30% on northern most H/chestnut: all covered by TPO 996. , WD,20/05/1993

GEN/15/00511 - Proposed erection of 2 dwellings., ,12/06/2015

APP/16/01140 - Demolition of garage and construction of two storey side extension on east elevation and external storage facility on west elevation to include cladding to the front and side elevation of storage facility., PERM,20/02/2017

GEN/17/00159 - Felling DDD exempt Oak , UNK,

## **3     Proposal**

Crown reduce 1No. Oak by 3m; Fell 1No. Turkey Oak; Fell 1No. Ash; Remove 8 lowest laterals on east side of 1No. Oak and reduce east side of crown by 2m. All trees subject to AI of TPO 0996.

## **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: 9

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 2

| <b>Comment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Officer Comment</b>                                                                                                         |
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| I am a tree conservationist and work voluntarily with a number of organisations and am dismayed to hear an application has been made to fell more trees down in Southleigh Road (No.17/00644) which I believe have tree preservation orders on them and feel we are contributing to the self-destruction of our own environment. I hope that Havant Borough Council seriously consider the consequences of permitting the unnecessary felling of trees that are part of our natural habitat and are becoming fewer and fewer in the Havant/Emsworth area. I would like to object to this proposal. Thank you for considering my request. | The reason for the tree works are discussed within section 7.3 and considered to be sound in terms of arboricultural practice. |
| Emsworth Waysiders have requested contact by NORSE if works are permitted - the email request as been sent to Andrew skeet at NORSE SE.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                |
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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 trees that are subject to this application are located in a verge that runs parallel to a public footpath. These trees form part of an Area TPO and along with other mature trees, they possess a high amenity value as a group.

**Oak (T2):** This Oak is located furthest south of the trees. The base could not be fully assessed due to dense undergrowth. There is evidence of bark peeling on the main stem and there is a significant amount of deadwood within the crown. The accompanying report within the application states that approximately 30% of the base is dead and this may have a corresponding loss of root function. The proposed crown reduction of 3m would reduce some of the weight of the canopy and extend the tree's useful lifespan.

**Turkey Oak (T7):** The Turkey Oak sits just north of the Oak (T2) and the main stem is surrounded by dense undergrowth and is partially Ivy clad. The crown possesses some deadwood and there are signs of previous pruning. The main stem is leaning heavily over the adjacent residential garden. Since the species is unreliable and prone to decay, the removal of this tree would minimise the risk from a potential failure and would benefit another Oak located close by.

**Oak (T8a):** The Oak is situated just north of the Turkey Oak (T7). The main stem is surrounded by dense undergrowth and the base could not be assessed as to its condition. Within the canopy there are signs of previous pruning and some minor amount of deadwood, however the tree appears to be displaying normal vigour and vitality. The lower laterals limbs on the eastern sector are encroaching on the garden of the neighbouring property and the proposed reduction to these by 2m would reduce any nuisance currently being experienced by the residents without causing detriment to the health of the tree or any amenity value.

**Ash (T9):** The Ash is the furthest north of the trees within the application. The base is surrounded by grass and shows no obvious signs of poor basal condition. There are signs of previous pruning and the crown is displaying what appears to be normal vigour and vitality. The main stem forks at an approximate height of 3m and the union is showing signs of stress. This union has a high potential of failure and therefore the felling of this tree would be justified on the grounds of safety.

## 8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

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## 9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00644

(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 reduce 1No. Oak by 3m; Fell 1No. Turkey Oak; Fell 1No. Ash; Remove 8 lowest laterals on east side of 1No. Oak and reduce east side of crown by 2m. All trees subject to AI of TPO 0996.  
**Reason:** To safeguard the health and well being of the tree(s) and its/their importance in the local landscape.
- 3      The tree felling for which consent is hereby granted shall not commence until a detailed scheme and specification for replacement tree planting on an adjacent part of the site has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; such specification shall include details of the species and size of such replacement planting.  
**Reason:** To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.
- 4      The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 09/08/18.  
**Reason:** To control the timing of the works