

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

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 proposes works to a mature Beech tree found in Fourth Avenue. The Beech tree is located in the northern facing rear garden of the property near the eastern boundary. The tree can be viewed easily from the street scene between the neighbouring dwellings with its canopy spreading over the property's garden and an access driveway to another property running parallel with the eastern boundary. As the canopy extends over the access road, it is now in close proximity to the neighbouring building that resides on the other side of the driveway. A timber shed has been built around the entirety of the main stem and therefore the base of the tree could not be assessed as to its condition. Within the tree's canopy there is evidence the tree has been poorly managed in the past with heavy pruning. However, the tree appears to be displaying what is normal in vigour and vitality. The original application included a 3m crown reduction which would have had a significant effect on the amenity value the tree offers to the street scene and to the overall health of the tree. Lesser works were negotiated with the applicant, amending the application to stipulate only a lateral reduction of 1.5m on the eastern aspect, which would bring the furthest extending branches away from the neighbouring building and rebalance the canopy. This will ensure that the harmonious relationship between the tree, the residents and the dwellings without causing detriment to the health of the tree and to the amenity value it offers to the public.

8 Conclusion

Recommend Permission

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/16/01304

(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: Lateral reduction of 1.5m to the eastern aspect, 1No. Beech (T1), subject to TPO 1882.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree and its importance in the local landscape.
- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 30/03/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works.