
Site Address: 10A Longwood Avenue, Waterloooville, PO8 8HX
Proposal: Thin 1No. Oak by 20%; fell 2No. Oaks; thin 1No. Oak by 20%; crown reduce 2No. Oaks by 3m; crown reduce 1No. Oak by 2m. All trees subject to Woodland Order TPO 1253.

Application No: APP/17/00245

Expiry Date: 16/05/2017

Applicant: Mr Wheeler
Creative Landscapes & Tree
Care

Agent:
Ward: Cowplain

Case Officer: Jamie Gargett

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

1 Site Description

10A Longwood Avenue, Waterloooville, PO8 8HX

2 Planning History

04/69207/000 - Application for Tree references, TA, TB, TC, TD, TE, TF, TG and TH to Crown reduce by 20%, Crown thin by 10% and Crown raise to 5metres. Application for Tree reference TJ to Crown reduce by 25% and Crown thin by 10%. Application to fell Tree reference TI and TK. , PERM,07/03/2005

3 Proposal

Thin 1No. Oak by 30%; fell 2No. Oaks; thin 1No. Oak by 30%; crown reduce 2No. Oaks by 3m; crown reduce 1No. Oak by 2m. All trees subject to Woodland Order TPO 1253.

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: 6

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 4

Comment	Officer Comment
I support the Application as this group of trees have not been managed for a number of years which has resulted in increased and irregular growth which has also given rise excessive shading and nuisance to the properties to the east of the property.	Noted
While I have no objection to the crowning and the reduction to protected trees, I do have a serious objection to the proposed felling of two Oaks in the area. There was a similar application several years ago, which the council quite rightly refused and it seems the application is being repeated. These Oaks contribute so much to the quality of life here in Complain and are also home to many species of birds, including two spotted woodpeckers. Of course these trees were there a long, long time before the houses in question as they are relatively new. Havant Borough Council has a good reputation with regards to it's trees and is rightly proud of them and I believe that whatever beautifies our surroundings should be cultivated and protected.	Noted. The two trees highlighted for removal are of a low quality and in decline, they are suppressed specimens and their removal would benefit the remaining oaks in terms of their potential and future growth. The garden is heavily crowded with trees and the removal of the two low quality Oaks will allow greater space for the others to develop without negatively impacting on the public amenity of the area.
Further to my recent letter, may I also suggest that any work carried out on the Oak trees be postponed until after the nesting season as there are visible nests in some of the trees in the area.	An advisory is sent out with every decision notice stating that the applicant has a duty to comply with the Wildlife and Countryside Act.
We wish to strongly object to the felling of two oak trees at 10a Longwood Avenue, Cowplain. Our house, which is on the south side of Longwood Avenue, is lower than the houses on the north side and is already affected	The two trees highlighted for removal are of a low quality and in decline, they are suppressed specimens and their removal would benefit the remaining oaks in terms of their potential and future growth. The garden is heavily crowded with trees and

by drainage problems caused by various factors the main one being the piping in many years ago of part of the Hermitage Stream which ran between the gardens of Longwood Avenue and Morley Crescent. There is a lot of surface standing water which takes a long time to drain away and this problem was made even worse when four oak trees which were protected by TPO's were illegally cut down during the building of the houses in Ashongton Close. Oak trees absorb large quantities of water and if this application for felling is approved then even more surface water will drain onto our property causing even more problems than we already encounter. There does not appear to be anything wrong with the two oak trees T2 and T6 which we believe are both protected by TPO's. 10a and 10b Longwood Avenue were both built whilst all the trees were already there so trimming and crown reduction only should be considered for approval.	the removal of the two low quality is unlikely to impact on the local water table.
I am strongly against the felling and reductions in size of these mature Oaks in Longwood Avenue. Apart from the visual aspect which will be substantial, the loss of habitat to insects and birds needs to be considered. Also the water taken up by these trees when in full leaf is significant, so the risk of flood would be much increased. Currently if there is any heavy rain there is a river of water running out of the driveway of these houses, i.e 10a and 10b Longwood Avenue. This overcomes the drain of Longwood Avenue as a consequence our drive becomes flooded, so far it has stopped short of entering our house. Also 50 metres along Longwood Avenue in the grounds of a property once called Idle Wood there are plans to cut down a great number of mature Oaks to make room for, in all probability, flats (apartments), this will complete the total deforestation of the area.	The two trees highlighted for removal are of a low quality and in decline, they are suppressed specimens and their removal would benefit the remaining oaks in terms of their potential and future growth. The garden is heavily crowded with trees and the removal of the two low quality is unlikely to impact on the local water table. The reductions of the trees is considered to be reasonable management for the tree sizes in this location. The crown thinning of 30% was considered excessive and has been reduced to 20%.

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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 a number of Oak trees that form part of a woodlands TPO, at a property in Longwood Avenue, Waterlooville. The trees are located in the rear garden of the property, with heavily restricted views from the Longwood Avenue, however a number of the trees are easily visible from the Dorrita Avenue that adjoins the rear boundary line and therefore the trees contribute well to the public amenity of the street scene. The main stems are surrounded by shrubs and undergrowth with each being heavily Ivy clad. Within their canopies there is the presence of some deadwood and there is evidence of previous pruning.

Within the specified works is the proposed felling of two Oak trees. The first of these Oaks is near the eastern boundary line with it's views from the street scene obscured by the other remaining Oaks. The second of the Oaks is close to rear boundary and has unrestricted views from Dorrita Avenue. These Oaks are suffering from dieback within their canopies and have previously undergone suppressive pruning works. Both trees are in decline and approaching the end of their useful lifespan.

The original application included thinning a further two Oaks nearest to the property by 30%. This would have been considered excessive works that would have had a detrimental effect on the tree's health. Through negotiation with the applicant, lesser works were agreed to thin the Oaks by only 20%, which would be considered reasonable cyclical management for trees of their size and maturity.

The remaining works found within the application are in line with sensible general maintenance for trees of their size in a relatively narrow width residential garden and would serve to maintain a harmonious relationship between the trees, the garden and the residents without the loss of any public amenity and without causing detriment to the health of the trees.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00245

(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: Thin 1No. Oak by 20%; fell 2No. Oaks; thin 1No. Oak by 20%; crown reduce 2No. Oaks by 3m; crown reduce 1No. Oak by 2m. All trees subject to Woodland Order TPO 1253.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree(s) and its/their importance in the local landscape.
- 4 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 16/05/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works