
Site Address: 20 Heather Close, Waterlooville, PO7 8EE
Proposal: Reduce crown and spread of 1No. Yew by 1.5 metres back to previous pruning points. Subject to TPO 1038.
Application Type: Works to TPO Tree
Application No: APP/22/00290 Expiry Date: 05/10/2022
Applicant: Mr Fletcher
Agent: Mr Angus Case Officer: Tom Gregory
Angus Tree Services
Ward: Stakes

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

1 Site Description

20 Heather Close, Waterlooville, PO7 8EE

2 Planning History

01/62542/001 - Crown reduce the upper half of the tree's canopy by 25% and crown raise up to 2m a Yew tree (T1) at 20 Heather Close subject to TPO 1038., PERM,19/12/2001
97/62542/000 - Pruning of Yew (T1 of TPO 1038), PERM,09/07/1997
06/62542/002 - Crown reduction of 20 % to Yew tree T1 subject of TPO 1038., PERM,03/04/2006
APP/12/00708 - Reduce crown by 1.5m 1No. Yew tree subject to TPO 1038., PERM,10/09/2012
APP/17/01190 - Crown reduce 1No. Yew (T1) by up to 1.5m overall. Subject to TPO 1038., PERM,08/01/2018

3 Proposal

Reduce crown and spread of 1No. Yew by 1.5 metres back to previous pruning points. Subject to TPO 1038.

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

Councillor Diana Patrick

Councillor Elizabeth (formerly Dianne) Lloyd

Councillor S Milne

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: 5

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 1

Comment	Officer Comment
- The Yew is used by protected Common Pippistrelle bats that can frequently be seen flying in this vicinity especially at dusk in the summer months. - The Yew has already been substantially reshaped in recent years with the use of a cherry picker platform for work I observed being carried out on 29 January 2018. - The Yew has not fully recovered from the last pruning and shaping as evidenced by the visible brown ends of branches that were pruned back too far in 2018. - This Yew has clearly been suffering stress from the current prolonged drought in the south coast area which has seen much less rainfall than the long-term average during June-August 2022.	Noted.

- The condition of the tree has only to be compared with a similar Yew located only 100 metres away in the front garden of the house at 18 Stirling Avenue - which is also situated adjacent to the house but has been allowed to expand its canopy spread over the past 26 years and is in a healthier condition for that reason. Both trees would have formed part of Franks Coppice. - It will be detrimental to the health of the Yew to conduct any further pruning work on it at this time. The present height and spread of the tree canopy is relatively small considering its age and is not inconveniencing anyone. - Yew trees live for a very long time even when hollow and with sections no longer growing, this is part of their attraction to birds, animals and invertebrates for food and shelter. Dead wood does not need to be pruned out unless it has become detached and is unsafe or has fallen and is causing an obstruction. - It is worthy of note that the owner and applicant has not occupied the house or even lived in the UK for many years; number 20 has long been a private rented property with tenants that frequently change. - For all of the foregoing reasons and especially in the interest of conservation it would be entirely inappropriate if this application were to be approved.	
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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 tree in question makes a positive contribution to local amenity. However, the proposals have been carried out before and will not have a negative impact on its long-term health or local amenity..

8 **Conclusion**

Permit

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/22/00290

(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 works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than one year from the date of this decision notice.
Reason: To control the timing of the works