

Recommendation: **REFUSE TPO CONSENT**

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 Gwen Robinson

Councillor Mike Seal

Councillor Peter Wade

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: 1

Comment	Officer Comment
We live directly opposite this property and this grand old tree. We strongly support this work as it will allow more sun into our garden and will help the trees long term health. The work appears to be undertaken by competent specialist technicians and can therefore see no reason to object to it.	Comments noted

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 This application relates to the proposed works to a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order.

The oak tree stands in the front garden of the property. It has been crudely and unevenly lopped very heavily. This looks to have been 25 to 30 years back and has resulted in a significantly modified shape and crown structure. The modified shape is accented as a result of the tree being close to the front of 8 Orchard Road and therefore having been lopped harder back on that (west) side. The crown spread measured in paces is 12N 17S 13E 8W.

Since being lopped the tree has formed a new crown and given its size and position it is considered to be a tree of high public amenity value.

The current specification of works is considered to be excessive and potentially detrimental to the health and amenity value of the tree. A revised specification was sent to the tree surgeon however no response has been received. Therefore a decision needs to be made on this current application.

8 Conclusion

The work proposed is considered to be excessive and not appropriate for this tree, therefore the application should be refused.

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for application APP/21/00831

(A)

(B) for the following reasons/subject to the following conditions

1 The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in

adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the deposited application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality. [A more appropriate course of action would be through management of the tree's size and impact through a scheme of approved surgery.] It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework.