

Recommendation: **REFUSE TPO CONSENT**

1No. Oak, T2, (T1 on plan) achieve clearance from house, reducing limbs by 3m leaving limb length of 6m and reduce limb over garden by 1.5 m leaving 12.5 m height to balance crown, subject to TPO 1209.

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 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: 10

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 This application to undertake work to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order relates to the proposed pruning of a large, mature Oak tree within the curtilage of 14 Billett Avenue.

This tree is a specimen Oak of significant public amenity value given its position at the front of the house and in full view as you proceed along Billet Avenue. The tree was viewed from the road therefore a detailed inspection has not been undertaken. The canopy appeared to have good vigour and vitality for its age and species and no information has been submitted to suggest that the tree is not in good health.

The applicant wishes to reduce limbs growing towards the house by 3m and reduce a limb over the garden by 1.5m to achieve clearance from the house and to maintain the tree as a feature.

Upon inspection it was found that there was sufficient clearance of the fabric of the property of at least 2m, therefore at this point in time it is not considered necessary or appropriate to start reducing these limbs.

No representations have been received.

8 **Conclusion**

The work proposed on this important tree in the street is not considered to be justified at this time given the clearance from the fabric of the building already being achieved, therefore permission should be refused.

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for application APP/21/00629 for the following reasons

- 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 is not considered to be necessary or justified at the present time. It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework.