

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: 14

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 0

7 Planning Considerations

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 trees from ground level accompanied by the owners of the property, and the following report deals with the relevant issues that have been raised on site, in the application form and from my site observations.

The trees subject to this application are displaying what appears to be normal vigour and vitality for their species and age class - it is noted that the Macrocarpa T4 in particular has suffered damage in past storms requiring it to be topped out and large limbs removed from the east side for safety reasons, but the current extension growth shows normal vigour and vitality.

- 7.1 Having regard to the relevant policies of the development plan it is considered that the main issues arising from this application are:

(i) Impact upon the streetscene

The works applied for (with the exception of T4 Macrocarpa) if granted should not detriment the visual amenity offered by the trees in the local street scene, not should tree health be negatively impacted on as a result of these works.

8 Conclusion

PERMITTED WORKS:

The works applied for are (with the exception of T4 Macrocarpa) considered reasonable when considering the appropriate management of these trees in their location, and for the reasons given to reduce and manage them.

REFUSED WORKS:

The proposed works do not adequately address the situation as they only serve to cut back by 3m on one side of the tree only which will in itself cause further imbalance, and not properly address the safety issues, as well as leaving stumps devoid of living foliage which will be both visually unacceptable, as well as contrary to sound arboricultural practice and industry guidelines BS3998.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to

(A) Recommend **APPROVAL** of works to T1, T2, T3, T5, T6 & T7 as applied for but subject to the conditions listed below:

- 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:

T1 Monterey Pine - the reduction of the limbs to the south side shall vary between 2m to 3m as necessary to achieve a balanced and natural form to the crown, making all final cuts adjacent to living growth points, and must NOT leave stumps or stubs devoid of living foliage. The lowest branch which is to be removed is one of estimated maximum diameter 170mm at its junction with the main branch.

T2 - Sycamore - fell in a sectional and controlled manner to avoid damage to other protected trees nearby, and the stump is to be ground out by machine and NOT grubbed out to minimise impact on the roots of the adjacent trees. Given the proximity to the building, and presence of other trees along the road frontage, a replacement planting will not be sought on this occasion.

T3 - Poplar - pollard by removing all regrowth down to the level of the 'Poll Head' where previously reduced to - DO NOT cut into or below the Poll Head.

T5/T6/T7 - Poplars - pollard by removing all regrowth down to the level of the 'Poll Head' where previously reduced to - DO NOT cut into or below the Poll Head.

Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the trees and their importance in the local landscape.

- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 24.12.2015.

Reason: To control the timing of the works.

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to

(B) Recommend **REFUSAL** of works to T4 as applied for the reason given below:

- 1 The Macrocarpa tree (T4) is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The proposed works further imbalance the trees, it would leave stumps devoid of living foliage (and is unlikely to properly address the alleged safety issues). This would be both visually unacceptable as well as contrary to sound arboricultural practice and industry guidelines BS3998, to the detriment of the visual amenities of the locality. It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local

Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

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- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 24.12.2015.

Reason: To control the timing of the works.

- 4 The proposed works do not adequately address the situation as they only serve to cut back by 3m on one side of the tree only, which will in itself cause further imbalance, and not properly address the safety issues, as well as leaving stumps devoid of living foliage which will be both visually unacceptable, as well as contrary to sound arboricultural practice and industry guidelines BS3998.

- 5 **Reason:** The T4 – Macrocarpa tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The proposed works further imbalance the trees, it would leave stumps devoid of living foliage (and is unlikely to properly address the alleged safety issues). This would be both visually unacceptable as well as contrary to sound arboricultural practice and industry guidelines BS3998, to the detriment of the visual amenities of the locality. It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning

Policy Framework 2012.