
Site Address: 37 Southleigh Road, Havant, PO9 2QG
Proposal: Crown reduce height 1No. Yew (T5) by 2m and crown spread by 1m to provide 2m clearance from neighbouring property; Fell 1No. Lime (T4), subject to TPO 1365.
Application No: APP/15/00435
Applicant: Mr C Langham
Agent: Mr D Hawkes
Ward: Blendworth Tree Surgeons
St Faiths

Expiry Date: 16/06/2015
Team: Team 1
Case Officer: Jamie Gargett

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

1 Site Description

Rear garden to a residential dwelling.

2 Planning History

None relevant.

3 Proposal

Crown reduce height 1No. Yew (T5) by 2m and crown spread by 1m to provide 2m clearance from neighbouring property; Fell 1No. Lime (T4), subject to TPO 1365.

4 Policy Considerations

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011
DM8 (Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features)

5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations

None

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: 9

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 1

Summary: Lime [T4 - part of TPO1365]: a decayed area is evident at the base of the

tree stem on the west side and extends for about 1m up the stem, however, there is no supporting diagnostic information with the application to substantiate the reason to fell, i.e. the information requested at 8.1. How extensive is the decay? What type of decay is it? Will it spread? Is the residual wall sound enough to support a reduced canopy? The tree has been reduced in the past. Consideration has not been given to alternatives to fell. If felling is the only option, no proposals have been made for replacement planting.

Comment: The Lime had extensive soft rot decay at the base of the tree extending into the rooting area with Mycelium present that is associated with Honey Fungus. It is reasonable to assume that the decay is extensive (with probing of the cavity) and that the tree has a high potential for failure. The owners Tree surgeon has been informed that a replant is required during the next planting season where by an Oak of at least 2m must be planted as mitigation for the loss.

7 Planning Considerations

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.

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.

The Lime tree was found to have extensive decay at the base of the main stem and permission was given on the day of HBC Arb's site visit to fell under DD Exemption. The risk associated with failure is considered to be high due to the extent of the decay in the base and rooting area of the tree. Should the tree indeed fail then the impact zone is high use / residential.

The Yew tree is a compact specimen that offers limited public amenity value to the streetscene. The works applied for are considered reasonable and will manage the size of the tree in relation to its setting.

The works proposed should not have a detrimental effect on the health or public amenity of the tree.

8 Conclusion

Recommend permission.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/15/00435, 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: Crown reduce height 1No. Yew (T5) by 2m and crown spread by 1m to provide 2m clearance from neighbouring property; Fell 1No. Lime (T4), subject to TPO 1365.

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 13/5/2016.

Reason: To control the timing of the works

- 4 The tree to be felled shall be replaced by an Oak to be planted in a position as near as practicable to the position of the tree to be felled and at a height of at least two metres when such replacement planting is carried out. The planting should be within the next planting season following felling.

Reason: To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.