
Site Address: 5A Wallis Road, Waterlooville, PO7 7RX
Proposal: Crown reduction to previous pruning points of 1No. Oak (T2) by 2m, subject to TPO 1529.
Application No: APP/15/01095
Applicant: Mr D Faulkner
Agent: Mr A Plummer
Ward: Waterloo
Expiry Date: 24/11/2015
Team: Team 2
Case Officer: Jamie Gargett
Fellam Tree Services

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

1 Site Description

Front garden to a residential dwelling, the garden area consists of a free standing garage and parking space for a number of vehicles.

2 Planning History

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3 Proposal

Crown reduction to previous pruning points of 1No. Oak (T2) by 2m, subject to TPO 1529.

4 Policy Considerations

National Planning Policy Framework

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011

DM8 (Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features)

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.

Conservation Area: Not applicable.

5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations

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: 0

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.

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 tree relating to this application is a mature Oak displaying what appears to be normal vigour and vitality for the species at this stage in its life cycle. It is a very prominent tree and contributes greatly to the street scene and character of the area which must be preserved via sensitive management practice and not over pruning.

In relation to the tree's relationship with the dwelling, neighbours and highway there are no justifiable reasons observed or noted as to why the tree requires management at this stage. The original 2m crown reduction applied for is considered excessive for this tree as due to the canopy branch structure the pruning cuts would extend into large diameter cord wood and significantly reduce the visual amenity value of this prominent and important tree in the street-scene. Larger crown reductions are only considered reasonable where the tree is in conflict with a dwelling, reasons of safety, the tree is not in a prominent location or the branch structure allows for smaller pruning cuts to be made.

The reason given for the pruning works within this application is due to birds roosting in the tree and their dropping falling onto the cars parked below. Currently there is enough space for a car to be parked outside of the crown spread and there is also a recently built garage on site. It should be noted that when the applicant purchased the house the tree was already subject of a TPO.

The tree has previously been managed to reduce its size and it would be acceptable to recommend permission to reduce the tree back to the previous pruning points as this will not extend into cord wood and be detrimental to the public amenity offered by the tree to the street scene.

The applicant has agreed with the recommendation of HBC Arb to reduce the tree to the previous pruning points which is considered acceptable in this instance.

8 Conclusion

Recommend permission.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/15/01095 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 reduction to previous pruning points of 1No. Oak (T2) by 2m, subject to TPO 1529.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree and its importance in the local landscape.
- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 24/11/16
Reason: To control the timing of the works