

7 **Planning Considerations**

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 trees' health and condition in any great detail. I visually inspected the trees 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.

8 **Conclusion**

The application for works to TPO trees consists of the following:

Remove south west limb of diameter 25cm from 1No. Holm Oak.
Fell 1No. Horse Chestnut tree.

Both trees are offering high public amenity to the local area and no physical or biological defects leading to the trees' potential for failure have been reported by the agent.

The Works to the Holm Oak are considered reasonable and will not be detrimental to the health of the tree or impact negatively on the public amenity value offered by it.

The proposed felling of the Horse Chestnut is considered excessive, this tree has been recently crown reduced and is considered to be acceptable in its relationship in the area. There are cavities in the tree that are consistent with its age - the previous reduction will have removed weight from the crown thus reducing the sail area of the tree and the potential for failure has been reduced.

In this instance the Council Arb has recommended a split decision to allow works to the Holm Oak and refuse the felling of the Horse Chestnut.

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to **SPLIT DECISION** for application APP/15/00115, for the following reasons and 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: Remove south west limb of diameter 25cm from 1No. Holm Oak (T1) subject to TPO 1826.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree and its importance in the local landscape.
- 3 The tree (Horse Chestnut tree (T1) subject to TPO 1528) is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and

healthy condition. Its proposed felling would result in undue loss and detriment to 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.

- 4 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 26/3/2016.

Reason: To control the timing of the works