
Site Address: 134 West Street, Havant, PO9 1LP
Proposal: Crown reduce by 2m and crown lift to 3m 1No Sycamore within
Conservation Area of Brockhampton.
Application No: APP/15/00058 Expiry Date: 25/02/2015
Applicant: Mrs M Moore Team: Team 1
Agent: Mr C Spratt Case Officer: Jamie Gargett
Ward: Bedhampton

Recommendation: **RAISE NO OBJECTION**

1 Site Description

Church grounds backing onto the rear gardens of residential dwellings in Western Road.

2 Planning History

None relevant.

3 Proposal

Crown reduce by 2m and crown lift to 3m 1No Sycamore within Conservation Area of Brockhampton.

4 Policy Considerations

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

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.
Conservation Area: Brockhampton

5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations

Conservation Officer: None received.
Landscape Team: None received.

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: 18

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 1

Summary:

1. Unless the tree is diseased and a threat to the property it should remain in place. The church may need to take a more proactive maintenance programme for the tree, in order to reduce the impact on the applicant.
2. It currently acts as a partial barrier and screening to protect other properties that run along this boundary from noise from both West Street and when the church and its hall are used for functions. Especially when bright outside lighting is left on overnight on the church building.
3. It is only 1 of 3 trees that are on this side of the site of the church boundary, and its loss would remove the habitat and food for the wild life in this area.
4. The hedgerow along this boundary is not well maintained by the church, and so will not address the concerns about the screening nor replace the height of screening provided by this tree when in full leaf.

Comment: Noted - works are now for a reduction and crown lift rather than a felling.

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 tree subject to this notification is considered to be a reasonable specimen that adds positively to the streetscene being clearly visible from the public highway. It was originally notified to fell. HBC Arb negotiated lesser works in the form of a crown reduction and crown raise which should alleviate the issues of light in the garden.

8 Conclusion

Recommend Raise No Objection.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Head of Planning and Built Environment be authorised to **RAISE NO OBJECTION** for application APP/15/00058.