

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Planning

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30/8

Arboricultural Officer Report Application For Consent To Carry Out Tree Work

To	Stephen Cantwell	From	David Cashman
Application number	APP/12/00778		
TPO Detail.	T1 of TPO 1528 & T1 of TPO 1826		
Location of trees.	Garden of Saxted House, 5 Tower Street, Emsworth		

Site Visit:

- On the day of my site visit I was in the presence of Mrs Manley
- The only trees that I inspected were those detailed on the tree work application and 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.

Proposal

Crown reduce by 2.5m one horse chestnut
Crown lift to 5m one holm oak

Tree Details (See attached photographs for further clarification)

The horse chestnut is a mature tree approximately 14m in height growing in close proximity to the flank wall of the property adjacent to Tower Street. It has been heavily pollarded and repeatedly reduced over the years resulting in many cutting points within the crown.

The holm oak is a mature tree approximately 16m in height with a broad open crown growing over the rear vehicular access to the property. It appears to be in normal health with no major defects.

Comments/reasoning

The horse chestnut has been repeatedly cut back over the years resulting in many weak branch junctions and decay in the main stem. The proposal to reduce the crown by up to 2.5m is perfectly reasonable management taking account of its position and previous history. The work will also reduce the risk of branch breakout to an acceptable level.

The holm oak has been crown lifted on the northern aspect previously leaving the crown on the southern aspect over the access drive low. The proposal to

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crown lift the southern aspect to 5m will balance the crown and have no impact upon either the amenity or health of the tree.

Recommendation: This decision is based on whether or not the proposal is justified, having regard to the reasons put forward in support of it, having assessed the amenity value of the trees and the likely impact of the proposal on the visual amenity of the locality.

T1 Permit the following: Horse Chestnut: Crown reduce by 2.5m
Holm oak: Crown lift southern aspect by up to 5m.

Informative note

- **Crown reduction and/or crown reshaping:** Involves the overall reduction of the height and spread of a tree's crown whilst, as far as possible, retaining its natural shape. Ideally, major work of this type should be spread over more than one growing season to minimise the effects on tree health of multiple wounds and loss of leaf area. It is advisable to retain smaller branches close to the pruning wounds to aid in the drawing up of water to the wounded tissues.
- **Crown lifting:** This involves the removal of the tips of the lower branches to achieve a specified height above ground level. Occasionally main (primary) branches may be removed but this is best avoided if at all possible.
- **Timing of works:** Proposed works should not be carried out during the period of bud burst or leaf fall. Care should be taken to ensure that branches are cut back to healthy outward facing buds to avoid die-back to which some species are prone.
- **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981:** Note that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to disturb roosting bats, nesting birds or other species. It is advisable to consult your tree surgeon/consultant to agree an acceptable time for carrying out any work.

Representations

The following representations were received and considered in the compilation of this report;

Date of site visit	17 August 2012	
Weather	Dry and calm	
e-mail to Planning	20/08/12	
Inspecting Officer	David Cashman Treecare	Associate Director with Barrell

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Photographs



Photo 1: The yellow arrow shows the horst chestnut

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Photo 2: The yellow line shows the approximate pruning line to crown lift the holm oak branches on the southern aspect overhanging the drive.