

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/22/93640					
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway					
Address	5 FELTON CLOSE, NETLEY ABBEY, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 5HT					
Proposed work	1 no. Sweet Chestnut (T1)- Reduce main trunk by 3m. Maximum cut diameter would be 200mm however majority would be much less. 1no. Silver Birch (T2)- Crown reduction by 2m. Maximum cut diameter would be 75mm. Work to abate seasonal nuisance.					
Assessment Date	08/11/22					
Officer comments	Both trees are situated within the rear of 5 Felton Close. They are visible from the front of the property, however, to the rear of the property is a rail station with these trees being in full visibility. Therefore, the trees offer some screening and offer high amenity value. The proposed work is unlikely to sufficiently abate seasonal nuisance, especially given that trees are within the property. T1 the sweet chestnut is in good vitality. The applicant has proposed a reduction in height by 3m. A reduction in height would be detrimental to the amenity value of the tree as it would no longer be visible over the top of the property. Works described appear to equate to 'topping' which would expose heart wood and accelerated decay of established trees, negatively impacting their longevity. BS3998 states 'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'. Therefore, the proposed works is unjustified. T2 the birch is in very good vitality. The applicant has proposed a 2m reduction with cut sizes not exceeding 75mm. 7.2.2 of BS3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations is clear in that it states, '<i>species of Betula, which generally have weak defences against development of decay, should be pruned as sparingly as possible, and without exposing heartwood or ripewood</i>'. Therefore, given that no evidence has been provided, as required under Regulation 16(1) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, to support structural damage to the property or a health and safety concern, the proposed reduction is unjustified.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO

		X				
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1 no. Sweet Chestnut (T1)- Reduce main trunk by 3m. 1no. Silver Birch (T2)- Crown reduction by 2m					
Conditions	n/a					
Notes to applicant	None					
Parish comments	We concur with the application.					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	0		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	The Parish’s comments have been noted.					