

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/22/94260					
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway					
Address	45 WESTWOOD GARDENS, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1FN					
Proposed work	1 no. Twin stemmed Ash (T1) - Fell. This tree is in early stages of dieback, it has low bifurcation on weak unions and is close to property.					
Assessment Date	11/01/23					
Officer comments	The ash is situated within the rear of the property. It can be clearly seen from the public highway and is considered to have moderate amenity value. The overall canopy appears in fair/good health. The tree has some minor epicormic growth on the stem, however, no ash dieback was noted. Given that we have just experienced a drought year and the tree is situated next to a small stream, there could be several reasons for this minor epicormic growth, ash dieback should not be presumed. Current guidance on managing trees with ash dieback is that <i>"healthy looking ash trees should not be felled in anticipation of the disease"</i>, and it has been observed that older ash trees can flourish in years following those of less/stressed growth, therefore, given that the application has stated <i>"the tree is in the early stages of ash dieback"</i> (which was not observed), and there appears to be no increased risk of whole tree failure, the presence of some minor stem epicormic growth deems the request to fell the tree is unjustified. The tree was observed in wet and windy weather, with no abnormal movement noted. No tight unions were observed, and no evidence has been provided to support the claim the tree has 'weak unions'. In conclusion, the applicant has requested to remove the tree, however, has stated that it is not diseased, and they do not have fears the tree might break or fall. Regulation 16(1) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 states <i>"appropriate evidence describing any structural damage to property or in relation to tree health or safety, as applicable"</i>, therefore, written arboricultural advice or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert should have been submitted. The request to fell the tree is unjustified.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
		X				
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1 no. Twin stemmed Ash (T1) - Fell					
Conditions	n/a					
Notes to applicant	None					

Parish comments	None		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	0	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	n/a		