

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/94518
Surveyor	SK
Address	61 CHALK HILL, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO18 3BY
Proposed work	TG2 - Beech, Lime group (TG2) - Fell section of TG2 within curtilage of 61 Chalk Hill because of subsidence.
Assessment Date	17/02/23
Officer comments	The trees within TG2 are two early mature beech and one lime, located to the front of the application property. Because of their position relative to the public realm, they are of high amenity value. Chalk Hill is lined with beech, oak and lime trees for much of its length and these trees contribute significantly to the amenity and character of the area. Given their high amenity value, the proposed work would have a significantly negative impact on amenity. Because of this, the stronger the reasons needed before consent is granted. The removal of these without compelling evidence is not felt to be in the public interest. No lime roots have been cited anywhere in the trial holes or pits, so removal of these will be resisted until suitable evidence is forthcoming. TP2/BH2 shows <i>Fagus</i> sp. roots are present but no clay, only sand and gravel are cited at 0-15m. There can be no demonstration of volumetric change due to tree roots without the presence of clay. Therefore, insufficient evidence is presented to implicate the influence of TG2 beech and lime and removal is refused in the absence of such evidence. There are also some discrepancies between the reports. For example, the arboricultural report states: "TP1/BH1 Sandy CLAY to 0.60m. Silty CLAY to 3.00m." This is not borne out by the geotechnical data (report reference SI_Report_25021_0654214204) which cites only sand and gravel to 0.78m. A comparison of the Geotechnical survey (report reference SI_Report_25021_0654214204) and the Arboricultural report (MWA addendum report reference SUB210929-9491Rev01 – it would be useful to see the original report) shows there are inconsistencies in the data or the interpretation of the data across the two surveys:

	Bore Hole/Trial Pit reference	Geotechnical survey	Arboricultural survey
	TP1/BH1 No volumetric change due to tree roots can be shown as no clay is present	Lists only sand and gravel present, not clay. Roots found within the gravel layer cited as <i>Prunus</i> (assumed to be from the laurel hedge) and <i>Pomoideae</i> gp.	Sandy clay to 0.60. Silty clay to 3m. No roots observed.
	TP/BH2 No volumetric change due to tree roots can be shown as no clay is present	Lists sand and gravel to 0.52m roots found at foundation level within the sand and gravel Roots found within the gravel layer cites at <i>Fagus spp.</i>	Silty clay to 3.0m <i>Pomoideae</i> gp. roots cited
	TP3/BH3 Potential for volumetric change as clay is present. No root action can be determined as no roots found.	Lists orange silty clay containing gravel to 0.5 and orange/brown silty clay containing grey mottle to 0.85m. No roots found.	Not cited
The only trial or bore hole with clay was not mentioned in the arboricultural report. Roots are only recorded within the gravel layers where not volumetric change due to roots is feasible due to the lack of shrinkable clay. No lime roots have been cited so felling the whole group is excessive. No beech roots have been found in the clay.			

Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	REFUSE: TG2 - Beech, Lime group (TG2) - Fell section of TG2 within curtilage of 61 Chalk Hill because of subsidence. Reason: insufficient evidence of tree root action in the evidence supplied. Insufficient detail in the description of ‘section’ of TG2 to be felled – it is not possible to determine which tree or trees are subject to the application.					
Conditions	N/A					
Notes to applicant	None					
Parish comments	None					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	0		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	n/a					