

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/95264				
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway				
Address	5 PINE ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1LQ				
Proposed work	2 x Scots pines (at front of property)- Fell to make safe. 2 x Silver Birches (at rear of property) - Reduce by 12m to make safe.				
Assessment Date	07/07/23				
Officer comments	The two pine trees are to the west and front of the property. They are prominent, adjacent to the highway and would be considered to have good amenity value. The applicant has proposed to fell the two trees to 'make safe.' The trees appear in good health. The two-silver birch are within the east of the property they have some visibility from the highway; however, visibility is limited to the upper canopy from there, therefore the amenity value in these trees lies primarily with adjacent properties. The applicant has proposed to reduce the two birch by 12m to 'make safe'. From the highway the trees appear in good health. Works described appear to equate to 'topping' which would expose heart wood and accelerated decay of established trees, negatively impacting their longevity. It would also significantly decrease any amenity value the trees have. BS3998 states 'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'. 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>'. The applicant has also stated that they do not have fears the trees 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, therefore the request to fell the pines and reduce the birch is unjustified.				
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area
					Raise no objection

		X				
Decision notice	REFUSE: 2 x Scots pines (at front of property)- Fell 2 x Silver Birches (at rear of property) - Reduce by 12m					
Conditions	n/a					
Notes to applicant	None					
Parish comments	None					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	0		4		0	
Objection/ support consideration	The public objections have been considered as part of the decision-making process.					