

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/95451				
Surveyor	SK				
Address	UNIT 2, BUILDING 2 HAMBLE COURT BUSINESS PARK, HAMBLE LANE, HAMBLE-LE-RICE, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 4QL				
Proposed work	1 no. tree (T1) - Cut back vegetation overhanging path and blocking traffic lights by 3-4m. 1 no. Mature Oak (T2 adjacent to Howdens building) - Prune by 3-4 m.				
Assessment Date	14/07/23				
Officer comments	All trees are growing within the business park and are clearly visible from within the park and from the adjacent busy Hamble Lane. T1 is a group of trees indicted by the ellipse on the tree location plan including sycamore, laurel, holly and ash – all will need some cutting back to clear the signal head (traffic lights) fully. This is a safety issue and must be done to ensure the visibility is good for the signals as it controls a crossing near a school. T2 oak is aged – approaching veteran status. The upper branches are retrenching naturally (though probably accelerated by the changes to environmental conditions) and there is significant deadwood present. The application also mentions '<i>Remove Major deadwood and retrenchment prune to promote new growth</i>' Retrenchment pruning is not specified in the BS3998:2012- Tree Works but it is described by the Arboricultural Association as "A form of reduction intended to encourage development of lower shoots and emulate the natural process of tree aging." The specification given in the application is not clear if this is intended as a whole crown reduction. This would be excessive on a tree of this age: the BS3998:2012 para 7.2.3.2 advises: '<i>Mature and old trees generally have a reduced capacity to tolerate the potentially adverse effects of wounding, especially with regard to the development of physiological dysfunction and decay.</i>' T2 is in this category. A reduction of the magnitude stated would remove a significant proportion of the live canopy and accelerate the decline of the tree, especially given the recent climatic conditions. Recommend the removal of live material is limited and an opportunity to check the response of the tree is given. Limit cut size to 75mm diameter to reduce the likelihood of exposing heartwood.				
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area
					Raise no objection TPO
			X		

Decision notice	Refuse: 1 no. Mature Oak (T2 adjacent to Howdens building) - Prune by 3-4 m. CONSENT: 1 no. tree (T1 – a group of mixed species including holly, sycamore, laurel and ash is present on site and can be cut back) - Cut back vegetation overhanging path and blocking traffic lights by 3-4m. 1 no. Mature Oak (T2 adjacent to Howdens building) localised pruning to the southeast portion of the crown to clear the Howden's building by 2.5 to 3.0m with a maximum cut size of 75mm in diameter.		
Conditions	Standard + limit cut size to 75mm in diameter.		
Notes to applicant	Deadwood is exempt and can be removed without further consent. Deadwood over the public highway can pose a threat and it is advised that this is removed.		
Parish comments	None		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	0	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	n/a		