

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/96288					
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway					
Address	15 MIDHURST COURT, CHALVINGTON ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 3LF					
Proposed work	1no. Silver birch (T1) - Reduce in height from approximately 13m to a finished height of 8m (just above the height of the lamp post) with the laterals reduced by 1-1.5m to shape the crown and clear lamp post. Complaint from neighbours that 'the tree is too large, reducing their light and concerned as it sways in the wind a lot'					
Assessment Date	10/11/23					
Officer comments	The tree is situated to the front of the property, adjacent the footway. It is clearly visible, therefore is considered to offer good levels of amenity. The birch is a young tree and appears in overall good health. The applicant has proposed to reduce the tree in height by nearly fifty percent. Works described appear to equate to 'topping' which would expose heart wood and accelerated decay of established trees, negatively impacting their longevity. BS3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations states 'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'. The applicant has also proposed a lateral reduction of up to 1.5m. Given the limited lateral growth, this is likely to give the tree a very unnatural appearance, alongside removing a significant volume of photosynthetic material is likely to have negatively impact tree health, longevity and visual amenity. 7.2.2 of BS3998:2010 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, the proposed work is deemed unjustified. It is acknowledged that the tree is in proximity to both a lamp column and buildings, therefore, localised reductions to provide clearance would be deemed reasonable.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1no. Silver birch (T1) - Reduce in height from approximately 13m to a finished height of 8m (just above the height of the lamp post) with the laterals reduced by 1-1.5m to shape the crown and clear lamp post.					

	CONSENT: 1no. Silver birch (T1) - Reduce lateral growth to provide up to 1m clearance from the lamp column and up to 2m clearance from buildings.		
Conditions	Standard quality and time.		
Notes to applicant	None		
Parish comments	None		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	0	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	n/a		