

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/96331					
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway					
Address	25 ASHDOWN CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5QF					
Proposed work	1no. Silver Birch (T1) - Crown lift to 5m, reduce crown back to the rot pots of previous works on the tree, reducing diameter of spread from 15m to 8m.					
Assessment Date	10/11/23					
Officer comments	The tree is situated within the front of the property. It is clearly visible from the public highway and offers high levels of public amenity. The tree appears in overall good health. It has historically been reduced in height; however, regrowth has formed a canopy with a reasonable appearance. The applicant has proposed to reduce the tree back to 'rot points'. There were no areas of decay that appeared significant when inspecting from the public highway. The proposed reduction will result in a very unnatural appearance. It will remove a large volume of photosynthetic material, likely to negatively impact tree health, longevity, and visual amenity. 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>'. Given the extent of any decay is unknown and the applicant has stated within their application they do not have a fear the tree might break or fall, the request is deemed unjustified. Where the applicant has fears the tree might break or fall, "<i>written arboricultural advice or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert,</i>" as outlined in Regulation 16(1) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 should be provided. I would expect this to be included with any future application where the similar work is requested. However, it is acknowledged that the tree has lapsed management, therefore, some management is reasonable.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1no. Silver Birch (T1) - Crown lift to 5m, reduce crown back to the rot pots of previous works on the tree, reducing diameter of spread from 15m to 8m.					

	CONSENT: 1no. Silver Birch (T1) - Crown lift to a maximum of 5m from ground level. Reduce entire canopy by up to 2m from branch tips. Cut sizes to not exceed 50mm.		
Conditions	Standard quality and time and cut sizes.		
Notes to applicant	None		
Parish comments	None		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	1	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	The supporting comment has been considered during the decision-making process.		