

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/25/99729
Surveyor	AM
Address	75 HURSLEY ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 2FS
Proposed work	1no. Oak (T50) - Fell. Tree is in close proximity to property at 75 & 73 Hursley Road. The light is obstructed from bedroom window at 75 Hursley Road. When leaves & acorns drop, they make the driveway at 73 Hursley Road & the pavement used by the public slippery which is unsafe for passers by. The sap attracts wasps. The utilities serving Hursley Road run through the branches. The oak has low amenity value. The Hiltingbury Lakes nearby are full of trees & this oak provides minimal contribution to the local landscape.
Assessment Date	5 th September 2025
Officer comments	TPO 58-H applies. Tree is individually protected as T50. The oak is sited in the front garden/driveway of 75 Hursley Road. It is clearly visible to the public. As oaks are long-lived species, the tree is capable of offering long-term benefit in terms of public, visibility. The crown of the tree is in close proximity to the recently built extension (permitted under H/18/83048). However, the tree was recently consented to be reduced in height by 2m and crownlifted to 4m, allowing this situation to be reasonably managed. Acorn and leaf-fall is a seasonal issue. Permitting a tree to be felled for this reason would set a low bar for future TPO applications. Overhead utilities run through the crown of this tree. The owners of the utilities have statutory undertaker rights to maintain and protect their apparatus. Should they consider that the tree is threatening their apparatus, they reserve the right to prune the tree, without application. The extent of pruning required is likely to be minor and infrequent. The proposal states that the tree provides minimal contribution to the local landscape. As above, the tree is sited to the front of the property, immediately adjacent to Hursley Road. It is clearly visible to the public and is capable of long-term retention, albeit subject to future pruning. Oaks are keystone species, capable of supporting more wildlife than any other native tree. As such, they make substantial contribution to the local landscape and environment.

	The application does not justify the felling of a significant amenity tree. As such, it should be refused permission.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
		X				
Decision notice	REFUSE CONSENT: 1no. Oak (T50) – Fell REASONS FOR REFUSAL: 1. The application oak is a large, native and potentially long-lived specimen. As such, it offers significant benefit in terms of public, visual amenity as well as contributing to local ecosystem services. 2. Acorn and leaf-fall are seasonal issues which do not justify the felling of a trees protected by Tree Preservation Order. 3. Whilst the crown may shade the recently constructed extension, TPO permission was recently granted under T/25/99370 to reduce the crown by 2m and to crownlift to 4m. If implemented, this will provide relief from shading without requiring the felling of T50. 4. Utilities running through and adjacent to tree canopies is not unusual. Statutory undertakers retain responsibility for the safe operation and maintenance of their apparatus. Should T50 be considered by the utility owner to require clearance from their apparatus, this could be carried out by minor, selective pruning.					
Conditions	n/a					
Notes to applicant	n/a					
Parish comments	<u>Chandlers Ford PC:</u> This tree has high amenity value for the community, particularly as there are no other trees further south along Hursley Road for some considerable distance. It should be retained. The applicant may wish to consult the Tree Officer over what forms of trimming may be acceptable to mitigate any issues.					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	1		2		0	
Objection/ support consideration	<u>Support:</u> 1. This tree causes enormous problems for us, due to annual high Summer sapping we cannot park on the drive through summer ,in addition sap covers our front and side windows daily, the drive and road pathway making it dangerously slippery. The tree sporns large amount of acorns and leaves blocking the roadside drain on regular instances causing dirty water to run down into our garden.					

	Due to power lines etc running through the tree branches in high winds in the past these have been brought down. The tree roots are apparently the same as the crown, so they are fast approaching the house foundations ,a potential for severe damage to our property. The tree provides little attraction to wildlife as it's isolated, there are more mature oaks nearby providing attraction for wildlife <u>Objections:</u> 1. The justification given for felling this beautiful old oak tree are far too trivial to be taken seriously. Loss of light in a bedroom only used at night is actually no great loss at all. 75 Hursley Road. Mess from acorns is easily dealt with using a brush or a leaf blower. Oak trees make very little sap so any wasps in the area are just there as part of the natural environment experienced by us all and will not go away if the tree is removed. If the utilities are interfered with by the branches then a tree surgeon will be able to help. The oak trees were here before we built the houses and in making the choice to buy a house with an oak tree in the garden, the owner takes on responsibility to care for it Every oak has a very high amenity value in a leafy suburb such as Chandler's Ford and is appreciated by us all as well as supporting the greatest diversity of wildlife of any tree. Without a full range of mature trees we would not enjoy the wide range of song birds in our gardens which we love so much. Yes, the Hiltingbury Lakes have oak trees but it is the many trees throughout the whole area that that make Chandler's Ford special and remind us that this whole area was once a patchwork of woodland, heathland and farmland and we are lucky to have them. 2. There are no valid reasons given to lift the TPS. If the current application succeeds on the grounds given, no tree can be protected (from being a tree - leaves,sap, acorns ????) AM response: All comments have been considered as part of the decision making process.
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