

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/26/101557
Surveyor	AM
Address	9 CATHERINE CLOSE, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3GS
Proposed work	2no. Oaks (T1 & T2) - Reduce both trees by up to 2m in height and on lateral growth retaining a crown spread of no less than 8m to the north east and south east, to allow trees to be maintained at a safe, liveable distance from the dwelling in Oakwood Court. Pruning wound diameter will not need to exceed 50mm.
Assessment Date	23 rd July 2026
Officer comments	The application oaks are protected within G1 of TPO ref: 401-E. This group is visible over and between properties from Catherine Close and Brookside Way. The trees are of such a size that they are probably visible as a skyline features from other surrounding roads. The group probably pre-dates development either side, but particularly the Oakwood Court development, presumably named in reference to the prominent tree group. As large, long-lived, visually healthy, native trees, they offer significant benefit in terms of public, visual amenity. As such, there must be strong justification for works that would compromise these values. The proposal is to reduce both T1 and T2 by 2m in height and to reduce crowns spread to no less than 8m over the gardens to the north-east/south-east. This has been proposed "to allow the trees to be maintained at a safe, liveable distance from the dwelling in Oakwood Court". No evidence has been supplied which would indicate that the trees are unsafe, although a neighbour has raised concerns regarding dead branches falling into their garden. Dead branches can be removed at any time, without application or notice. This would not necessitate total crown reduction. The relatively natural appearance of the trees would be compromised and this would be visible from most public vantage points. It is acknowledged that the proposed pruning wounds would be small (<50mm) and the trees would tolerate this in terms of their health. It is accepted that the trees dominate the rear gardens of Oakwood Court. As such, reduction of lateral growth, as has been consented in the past, is reasonable. This work would be visible only from one side but against the backdrop of the remaining branch framework. As such, there would only be minor loss of amenity.

Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
				X		
Decision notice	The Council REFUSES CONSENT for the following work: 2no. Oaks (T1 & T2) - Reduce both trees by up to 2m in height and on lateral growth retaining a crown spread of no less than 8m to the north east and south east. REASON FOR REFUSAL: The application oaks are large, long-lived, visually healthy, native trees, they offer significant benefit in terms of public, visual amenity. As such, there must be strong justification for works that would compromise these values. No evidence has been supplied which would indicate that either tree is unsafe and that total crown reduction is justified. A reduction in height would compromise the relatively natural appearance of both trees. In the absence of sufficient justification, this aspect has been refused consent. The Council GRANTS CONSENT for the following work: 2no. Oaks (T1 & T2) - Reduce lateral growth retaining a radial crown spread of no less than 8m to the north east and south east. Pruning wound diameter will not exceed 50mm.					
Conditions	BS3998					
Notes to applicant						
Parish comments	None.					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	1		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	Re T/26/101557. We support this application as we are affected by both the Oak Trees that are included in this application. We are very concerned about the increasing closeness of the tree branches to the house, which currently necessitate in very regular cleaning and maintenance of the gutters . There are a large number of dead branches constantly falling daily , that include small twigs, large branches and on inspection there are now a number of branches falling that are as thick as your arm and are obviously rotten as no growth is visible. We have a glass roofed Pod and Sheds in the garden which would suffer substantial damage if any of the larger branches fell on them. The summer foliage blocks both sunlight and open vista to the house. We have discussed this with the owner of the trees (9 Catherine Close) and our immediate neighbours and they are all in					

	favour of this work to be done. Nobody wants the trees removed but checked for safety for fear of falling branches and the general future health of the trees. The trees were here when we moved in 40 years ago, but in that time they have become very large and need maintenance.
--	---

	AM response: Noted and considered. Regarding dead branches, these can be removed at any time without application or notice.
--	--

