

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/96548				
Surveyor	SK				
Address	Land to the rear of 18 Dean Court, Hedge End. SO30 4EG,				
Proposed work	1no. Oak (T83) - Reduce selective branches by 1-2m and crown thin the remaining outer canopy (within 2m of the existing branch tips only) by removing approximately 1 in 3 small diameter epicormic branches (max. 30mm). The vast majority of this work will be completed with hand saws and no branches will be removed from inside the canopy (below 2m from existing branch tips). Reason - Part of our long-term plan to aid the retrenchment of this veteran Oak.				
Assessment Date	13/12/23				
Officer comments	The oak is a veteran growing on the junction of two gravel paths and near a gate. Publicly accessible. Tree is demonstrating reiterative growth in the upper canopy – younger sections are growing vertically at multiple points across the canopy. At the time of inspection, there is very little secondary canopy forming, and minor stunted epicormic growth on some of the scaffold limbs, but nothing of significance. Aim to improve the growing conditions for both the ground and by initiating a haloing exercise to remove nearby vegetation and slowly increase light levels/reduce competition from neighbouring younger trees. This will hopefully result in a lower canopy forming and start the process of retrenchment so the upper canopy can be managed for safety.				
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area
					Raise no objection TPO
			X		
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1no. Oak (T83) - Reduce selective branches by 1-2m and crown thin the remaining outer canopy (within 2m of the existing branch tips only) by removing approximately 1 in 3 small diameter epicormic branches (max. 30mm). CONSENT: Once secondary canopy is showing signs of development and establishment due to haloing and improved ground conditions, the reiterative growth (smoother barked upright growth from the upper canopy) can be selectively thinned by up to 20% in one operation, several years apart until the secondary canopy is established. This can be achieved by preferentially removing the larger of the reiterative sections where they load more vulnerable branches with higher targets. Works to be staged over 15-year period and dependent on the response of tree.				

Conditions	NOT STANDARD – a longer time-period is needed to allow works to the tree suggest over 15 years to cover up to three phases or 25 years to cover 5 phases (20% per intervention, allowing all reiterative growth to be removed once lower canopy is established. Arboricultural supervision for any works with reference to best practice for managing veteran trees. Assessment of response over several (3-4 minimum) before any further live material is removed.		
Notes to applicant	The initial works will be haloing and ground improvement. This will hopefully increase the lower secondary canopy. Only when this is demonstrated can works to the tree be initiated. The response of the tree will depend on multiple factors and if it is looking poor then no works are to be done until it is showing signs of recovery and good vitality. Recommend recording these clearly for future reference, and taking good photographic records now while the upper canopy is visible – this will be hidden if the secondary canopy establishes over time.		
Parish comments	No Objection subject to the usual conditions of the tree officer.		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	0	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	The Parish comment has been noted.		