

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/24/97209										
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway										
Address	9A HILTINGBURY CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5NY										
Proposed work	4no. Silver Birch (G1) - Reduce collective crown of 4 x Silver Birch in height & spread by up to 3 metres to reduce risk of failure. Pruning cuts to be made at suitable growth points, cuts to be no greater than 70mm. Visible signs of decline and bleeding around base indicative of Phytophthora or Armillaria.										
Assessment Date	15/05/24										
Officer comments	The trees form part of a mature group of birch within the rear of the property. They can be seen from the public highway and offer good levels of visual amenity. The applicant has proposed to reduce G1 in height and spread by up to 3m. The height reduction described appears to equate to 'topping' which would expose heart wood and accelerated decay of an established tree, negatively impacting its longevity. BS3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations states <i>'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'</i>. Whilst the applicant has cited they wish to carry out work to reduce the risk of failure and that the trees may have Phytophthora or Armillaria, a positive identification has not been included with the submitted application, therefore, an accurate conclusion cannot be drawn on the most appropriate management. Previous applications requesting a reduction to these trees highlight concern for proximity to structures during planning in 2014/2015. They have also been cited as the reason for refusal of an extension in 2017. 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>. Therefore, given that no evidence has been provided, as required under Regulation 16(1) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, to support the requested reduction of trees within G1, pruning should be minimal to clear structures only, this was permitted under application T/23/96455.										
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Conservation Area</th></tr> <tr> <th>Raise no objection</th><th>TPO</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Conservation Area		Raise no objection	TPO		
Conservation Area											
Raise no objection	TPO										
		X									

Decision notice	REFUSE: 4no. Silver Birch (G1) - Reduce collective crown of 4 x Silver Birch in height & spread by up to 3 metres		
Conditions			
Notes to applicant			
Parish comments	None.		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	0	0	0
Objection/ support consideration			