

**Reasons for proposed removal of two Norway Maples from land adjacent to 40 Barton Drive,
Hamble-le-Rice, Southampton, Hampshire, SO31 4RE**

It is proposed to remove two Norway Maples (T1 & T2) for the following reasons:

Norway Maple T1 is growing 6.7m away from the corner of the house; Norway Maple T2 is growing 7.6m away from the corner of the house. Both trees are currently about 12m tall, but both have the potential to grow to about 20-25m tall with a similar crown spread (they are large-growing trees).

The trees, which have a moderate water demand, are growing well within influencing distance of the building and, according to the British Geological Survey's website, the property is situated on Selsey Sand Formation - Sand, silt and clay, and so (due to the presence of shrinkable clay) there is a risk of subsidence occurring in the future. Maples are the 4th most likely tree species to cause subsidence (after Oaks, Ashes and Cypresses).

Both trees were planted about 25 years ago, with little thought about their potential size. Both are now suppressed by the nearby, mature Oak and there is no further room for the trees to properly grow – they will need to be pruned regularly to contain their size. They have been pruned back from the roof and guttering in the past and this work will need to be repeated in the future. One of the trees has also dropped a large limb onto the footpath and fence.

Due to being suppressed, the trees have leaning stems (one has been an issue for horse-riders before). They have limited public amenity values.

The trees are unsuitable for their location and will cause issues as they continue to grow.

Mitigation planting:

To mitigate, the applicant is willing to fund the planting of two new 'standard'-sized' Field Maples (perhaps to follow the same line as the field boundary Oaks).

This matter can be dealt with by condition, but the following details can be confirmed at this stage:

- The new trees will be planted in full accordance with current British Standards (BS 8545: From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape).
- Once planted, the trees will be regularly maintained (watered and weeded during the spring and summer months) for at least 5 years or until established.