

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/25/98987
Surveyor	IF
Address	103 CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3GQ
Proposed work	1no. Copper Beech (T1) - Crown reduction of laterals by 2m & height by 3m. 1no. Copper Beech (T2) - Crown reduction of laterals by 2m & height by 2m. Reason: to maintain the health of the trees and to reduce excessive bird fouling.
Assessment Date	31/03/2025
Officer comments	Desk top assessment as the site was previously visited as part of the application T/24/98631. The new application has not been materially any different from the previous application, no evidence of arboricultural assessment of T2 (advised in the previous report) has been provided. It is stated in the application form that the reduction of the same extent had been consented to by EBC in the past, however, our records show reduction of 1.5m max on both trees in 2015 as per decision on T/15/76052. Considering the above, the previous “part consent part refuse” decision remains valid. Please see previous notes below: T1 and T2 are 2no. copper beech subject to TPO 180-E (T1, T2) forming a cohesive canopy situated in the front driveway of 103 Chapel Road, they offer high amenity value and are visible from all public areas. T1 is located closer to the property near the path leading to the front door, the proposal includes inconveniences such as bird droppings as a reason for works. Currently, there is no major overhang or encroachment, the tree has some lawn area around it. Reasons of maintaining the tree’s health stated in the proposal are not supported by any evidence and therefore cannot be considered valid. The tree is not a large-sized specimen, therefore, the proposed reduction of height and spread by 3 and 2m respectively is likely to have a major impact on the tree’s public amenity as well as leave large pruning wounds to allow for pathogens and disease to enter which beech species are particularly susceptible to. T2 has recently had a branch tear as mentioned by the resident, it also has a fungi bracket under a cavity at 2.5m from the ground level on the northern side. Reduction by 2m in height and spread equals to topping for this medium-sized tree and will possibly have a detrimental effect on its health and vitality reducing its public amenity as well. The agent did not mention the cavity and fungi bracket (possibly Ganoderma) as the reasons for proposal. However, their presence justifies taking some precautionary measures, therefore, smaller reduction works are deemed reasonable.

	The applicant and agent are advised to investigate the bracket and cavity further to assess potential risks of failure.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	Refuse: 1no. Copper Beech (T1) - Crown reduction of laterals by 2m & height by 3m. 1no. Copper Beech (T2) - Crown reduction of laterals by 2m & height by 2m. Consent: 1no. Copper Beech (T1) - Crown reduction of laterals by 1m & height by 1m. 1no. Copper Beech (T2) - Crown reduction of laterals by 1m & height by 1m.					
Conditions						
Notes to applicant						
Parish comments						
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	1		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	The support comment from the resident of the neighbouring property has been considered during the decision-making process.					