

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
DIRECTORATE OF STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT**

DELEGATED APPLICATION

Application No: 6/2016/0729/TPO
Location: 34 Kingsmead, Cuffley, Potters Bar, EN6 4AN
Proposal: Removal of broken limbs from crown and crown reduction by 3.5m lateral length on north side of Oak tree covered by TPO 3
Officer: Miss M Hill

Recommendation: Granted

6/2016/0729/TPO

Context	
Relevant history	S6/2013/0665/TP - Remove 2m overhang from Oak T4 covered by TPO 3 - Refused
Main Issues	
Appropriateness of the works in relation to the tree(s)	<p>The mature oak tree stands within the garden of 34 Kingsmead but the application centres on the northern side of the crown which overhangs 4 Orchard Close.</p> <p>The tree appears to have good health and vitality. The structural condition is unknown and does not affect the outcome of the application. The crowns profile appears ragged with the northern branches longer than those over 34's garden which have possibly had some management or storm damage in the past.</p> <p>The proposal is to trim back the overhang. The proposed amount to remove is quite large, however due to the crowns unusual shape, the amount would even it up.</p>
Conclusion	
The proposal to crown reduce by 3.5m lateral length on north side is reasonable arboricultural management and will not detrimentally harm the tree's amenity.	

Conditions:

1. The works hereby approved shall be undertaken in accordance with the British Standard 3998:2010 (Tree Work) and by an appropriately qualified person.

REASON: To ensure that any works undertaken comply with arboricultural best practice.

2. The works hereby permitted must only be carried out during winter (November to February, inclusive) or high summer (July to August inclusive) and at no other time.

REASON: To minimise the impact on the tree.

3. The crown reduction by 3.5m lateral length on northern side shall be to suitable fork/branch unions and create a pruning wound no larger than 20cm in diameter.

REASON: To ensure the preservation of the amenity value and health of the tree.

4. The development/works shall not be started and completed other than in accordance with the approved plans and details:

Tree location plan received and dated 4 April 2016.

REASON: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans and details.

Informatives:

1. Following reduction, there should still be a strong framework of healthy small-diameter branches and twigs (leaf bearing structure), capable of producing a dense leaf cover during the following growing season. A crown should normally be reduced in proportion to its original shape, so as to avoid altering the balance of the tree as a whole. (BS3998:2010 Tree work Recommendations section 7.7.).

Determined By:

Mr A Mangham
6 June 2016