

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - PLANNING, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND GOVERNANCE**

DELEGATED APPLICATION

Application No: 6/2017/2206/TPO
Location: Parkhouse Court Hatfield AL10 9QZ
Proposal: Reduce 1 x Field Maple tree by 2m with laterals pruned (T1), remove basal growth of 1 x Sycamore tree and self-seeded trees nearby (T2), reduce 1 x Norway Maple tree to below zone of die-back by 5m in height and prune laterals (T5) - covered by TPO 301 (2004)
Officer: Mr Oliver Waring
Recommendation: Granted

6/2017/2206/TPO

Context	
Relevant history	<p>Application Number: 2014/0292 Decision: Decision Date:</p> <p>Proposal: Trees and Hedgerows - Unlawful works to TPOs</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Application Number: S6/2005/0191/TP Decision: Part Approved / Part Refused Decision Date: 18 April 2005</p> <p>Proposal: WORK TO TREES COVERED BY TPO 301</p> <p>Application Number: S6/2006/0179/TP Decision: Granted Decision Date: 04 April 2006</p> <p>Proposal: WORKS TO OAK TREE (T15) COVERED BY TPO 301</p> <p>Application Number: S6/2012/0118/TP Decision: Granted Decision Date: 15 March 2012</p> <p>Proposal: Works to trees covered by TPO 301 (see Schedule)</p> <p>Application Number: 6/2015/2279/TPO Decision: Granted Decision Date: 24 May 2016</p> <p>Proposal: Remove basal growth from field maple tree T1 covered by TPO 301.</p> <p>Application Number: 6/2016/1126/TPO Decision: Refused Decision Date: 02 September 2016</p> <p>Proposal: Fell Pine tree (T7) covered by TPO 301 (2004)</p>

Main Issues	
Appropriateness of the works in relation to the tree(s)	<p>The trees in question are located within Parkhouse Court Hatfield and are protected by TPO 301.</p> <p>The Field maple marked T1 on the plan is a mature tree approximately 12m tall. This tree is fair health and condition. Some minor deadwood and dieback was noted within its crown. The applicant is proposing to reduce this tree by 2m, specifically the lateral branches. This work is considered appropriate.</p> <p>The sycamore marked as T2 on the plan is mature tree in excess of 12m tall. At the time of my visit this tree appeared in good health and condition. The tree has a significant amount of epicormic growth at the base of the tree. The applicant is proposing to remove the basal growth and remove the self-set sycamores from around the base of the tree. This work is considered appropriate.</p> <p>The maple marked T5 is a semi-mature tree approximately 13m tall. The tree is a leggy specimen that has been pruned back from the adjacent building in the past. The tree has some deadwood and dieback within the top section of the crown. The applicant is proposing to reduce the tree to remove the section with dieback. Given the proximity of the tree close to the building the proposed work is considered appropriate and good arboricultural practise.</p> <p>The group of London plane trees marked TG2 on the plan are semi-mature trees growing within the pedestrian area of shopping area. The trees appear on good health and condition. The applicant is proposing to crown lift the trees to achieve a clearance of 3.5m. This work is considered appropriate and good arboricultural practise.</p> <p>This approval gives two periods within the year when this work can be carried out. Trees use most of their stored or potential energy to leaf out. This energy is then recouped quickly over the following weeks. Crown reducing a tree immediately before leaf out (when the sap is rising), during leaf out or immediately after leaf out, leaves the tree with little reserves of energy to react to the pruning, both in terms of making more leaves and compartmentalising the wounds. A similar situation occurs in the time before, during and immediately after leaf fall. (<i>Shigo, Modern Arboriculture 1991</i>).</p> <p>A comment has been submitted regarding the maintenance of the grass around the base of the trees. This is outside the remit of the TPO application so I have not addressed this issue.</p>
Conclusion	
<p>The proposed tree works are proportionate to the health or structural issues each tree displays and are reasonable arboricultural management will not harm the amenity of the individual trees or the woodland as a whole. The application should be approved.</p>	

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 maintain the character and appearance of the area in accordance with Policies GBSP2, D1, D2, D8 and R17 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan 2005.

3. 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 maintain the character and appearance of the area in accordance with Policies GBSP2, D1, D2, D8 and R17 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan 2005.

DRAWING NUMBERS

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

Plan Number	Revision Number	Details	Received Date
		Sketch Plan	28 September 2017

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

Determined By:

Mr Chris Carter
4 April 2018