

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PLANNING)**

DELEGATED APPLICATION

Application No: 6/2023/1717/TPO
Location: 1 Hook Lane Northaw Potters Bar EN6 4DA
Proposal: Oak tree to crown lift to 5m over 2 Hook Lane and remove epicormic (whiskers) growth from the stem to a height of 5m. Tree covered by TPO 882 (2018)
Officer: Ms M Hill

Recommendation: Granted

6/2023/1717/TPO

Context	
Site and Application description	1 Hook Lane Northaw Potters Bar EN6 4DA Oak tree to crown lift to 5m over 2 Hook Lane and remove epicormic (whiskers) growth from the stem to a height of 5m. Tree covered by TPO 882 (2018)
Relevant history	Application Number: 6/2017/2547/TPO Decision: Granted Decision Date: 20 December 2017 Proposal: Crown lift 1 x Oak tree (TP3) by up to 5m and crown reduce by 25 % and reduce 1 x Oak tree (TP2) by 30 % - Covered by TPO 119 (1987)
Main Issues	
Appropriateness of the works in relation to the tree(s)	<p>The oak tree is a mature tree standing in the rear garden of the property, abutting the boundary with house 2. The tree is large in stature and very much feels part of the silvern character of the area, and also part of the wider Hook Wood.</p> <p>The tree is slightly thin of leaf, but this is not indicative of decline. The odd secondary piece of deadwood is visible. Overall, the tree appears to be in fair to reasonable health, reduced vitality, and structural condition.</p> <p>The tree has a high lift over the applicant's garden, but a few of the branches over the neighbouring garden hang lower. There are applicant fears that these may become caught by the wind etc and fail. A crown lift to 5m over the neighbouring garden would reduce these branches back significantly whilst retaining the profile of the underside of the crown.</p> <p>There is some epicormic growth on the stem. The removal of this is negligible.</p> <p>The proposed tree works are reasonable.</p>
Conclusion	
The proposed tree works are justified and proportionate given the justification and reasoning for it and the application should be approved.	

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.

DRAWING NUMBERS

2. 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
		Tree sketch	23 August 2023

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

Determined By:

Mr Oliver Waring
26 September 2023