

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

DELEGATED APPLICATION

Application No: 6/2023/1865/TPO
Location: North side of Byway 'Essendon 014' and within Harefield Wood Hatfield AL9 6BA
Proposal: All trees to be felled to ground level and all are marked in orange paint

T1-3, T5 and T12-13: Ash with advanced (stage 2 & 3) ADB with significant base cavities present

T14: Large oak with extensive lower stem decay likely caused by fire damage

T15 -T17: Ash with advanced (stage 2 & 3) ADB with cavities throughout stem and crown

T18: Oak with extensive lower stem decay likely caused by fire damage

T19: Ash with extensive lower stem decay likely caused by fire damage

T20: Heavily leaning ash with stage 3 ADB

All identified tree works are for H&S reasons (Stage 2 and Stage 3 ADB, plus structural decay resulting from fire damage)

All arisings to be left on site and used to block unauthorised access by 4x4s and to prevent flytipping and further fire damage to trees.

No re-planting proposed as felling is in a woodland setting, with natural regeneration present as well as suppressed intermediates & juvenile trees that will be released into the the upper canopy by proposed works.

TPO 619 (2017) W1. TPO3 W10. TPO3 W11

Officer: Mr James Hare

Recommendation: Granted

6/2023/1865/TPO

Context	
Site description	North side of Byway 'Essendon 014' and within Harefield Wood Hatfield AL9 6BA
Relevant history	Applications None
Main Issues	
Appropriateness of the works in relation to the tree(s)	The trees detailed in the application are part of a woodland tree preservation order and identified for removal where they have been significantly affected by ash dieback or have been unable to recover from a car fire that occurred in the woodland. Due to their location adjacent to a footpath and the risk that they present to the users of the footpath, they have been identified as requiring removal. Ash dieback is a pathogen that is showing to have widespread impacts on the

	physiological health of ash in most regions of the UK. Where it is affecting the physiological health of the ash trees, it is allowing secondary pathogens to get into the wood of the trees and affect their structural stability. The secondary pathogens, such as <i>inonotus hispidus</i> and <i>armillaria spp.</i> , are evident to be colonising the trees subject to this application and therefore support the notion for removal.
Conclusion	
The proposed tree works are proportionate to the health or structure of the tree. The works will harm the amenity of the TPO but are justified through the condition of the tree(s). It is recommended that the application 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 and Map	7 September 2023

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

Determined By:

Mr Oliver Waring
30 October 2023