

REFERENCE NO: CR/2019/0903/TPO

LOCATION: [AMENITY LAND TO THE FRONT OF 81/83 WORTH ROAD, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY](#)
WARD: Pound Hill South and Worth
PROPOSAL: OAK - SECTIONAL FELLING/RESTRICTED FELL

TARGET DECISION DATE: 7 February 2020

CASE OFFICER: Mr R. Spurrell

APPLICANT'S NAME: Crawley Borough Council
AGENT'S NAME:

PLANS & DRAWINGS CONSIDERED:

Drawing Number	Revision	Drawing Title
CBC0001		Tree Plan 052407

REASON FOR REPORTING TO COMMITTEE:-

CBC is the applicant.

PUBLICITY AND RESPONSES:-

The application was advertised by site notice and letters sent to nearby residents at 81 and 83 Worth Road. No responses were received.



THE APPLICATION SITE:-

- 1.1 The oak tree is located on a strip of CBC owned amenity land in front of numbers 81-83 Worth Road. It forms one of 12 mature specimens and 3 groups of trees along the northern side of the road that contribute to the tree lined character of this section of the street. It is immediately east of another oak which is being considered for works under application CR/2020/0902/TPO (also on this agenda).

PLANNING HISTORY:-

- 2.1 None.

PLANNING POLICY:-

- 3.1 The oak tree is protected by the Worth Road, Pound Hill Tree Preservation Order ref: 01/2016 and it is identified as T7. As stated above this is one of 12 individual specimens and 3 groups of trees along the northern side of the road protected by this order
- 3.2 This application must be considered in the context of Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulation 2012, the National Planning Practice Guidance – Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas, and, the Council's Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (2016) (a non-statutory document).

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:-

- 3.3 The determining issues in this application are the effect of the proposal on the health, character and appearance of the tree and the level of amenity that it provides within the surrounding area.
- 3.4 The reasons for felling are due to the condition of the tree with broken branches, die back, bulges in the wood, trunk defect, but also its proximity to the nearby building/ footpath, road, overhead cables and a street lamp. There is also soil compaction due to parking.
- 3.5 The applicants have also produced Resistograph tests for the buttress roots.

3.6 OAK - SECTIONAL FELLING/RESTRICTED FELL

Contribution to public visual amenity	Good – the tree is in decline but still makes a good contribution to public amenity with a prominent position and good visibility
Estimated remaining contribution	10-20 yrs
Are works justified?	Yes

- 3.7 It is evident that the tree is in decline with extensive dieback and this is resulting in safety concerns due to proximity to dwellings, the highway and other nearby features such as the overhead cables.
- 3.8 Retaining the tree would require reducing the crown to such an extent that it would be rendered unsightly and its amenity would be significantly reduced. At this stage in the tree's life it is unlikely to recover a full crown following a heavy reduction and it is therefore considered that the best course of action is to remove and replace the tree.
- 3.9 Worth Road is characterised by a line of (mostly Robinia) trees that run along the majority of the northern side of the road, it is therefore important that this and indeed all the trees are replaced as and when the need arises to remove them in order to maintain this important feature in the street scene and ensure the amenity of the road is not eroded over time.

RECOMMENDATION RE: CR/2019/0903/TPO

CONSENT - Subject to the following condition(s):-

1. This consent is valid for a period of two years from the date of this notice and shall only be carried out once.
REASON: To enable the Local Planning Authority to control the works in the interests of good tree management in accordance with Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.
2. All works should be carried out in accordance with BS3998: 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.
REASON: In the interests of visual amenity and to ensure the continuing health of the tree(s) in accordance with The Town & Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.
3. Within 12 months of the felling of the tree, the owner of the land shall plant an oak tree, in a location as close to the felled tree as practical to the front of 81-83 Worth Road. The tree shall be not less than nursery standard size and conform to British Standard 3936: Nursery Stock Specification. In the event that the tree dies within five years following such planting, it shall be replaced with a similar tree in a similar position during the next planting season.
REASON: In the interests of the amenity of environment of the locality in accordance with The Town & Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.



ArcGIS Web Map



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