

REPORT SUMMARY

REFERENCE NO - 23/00503/TPO			
APPLICATION PROPOSAL Trees: Yew (T1/T2) - Raising crowns of both trees by 4 to 5 metres, trim and rebalance, if necessary.			
ADDRESS Breakstones Speldhurst Road Langton Green Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 0JL			
RECOMMENDATION To PERMIT the proposed works subject to conditions (please refer to section 9.0 of the report for full recommendation)			
SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION The proposed works will not have a negative impact upon the local landscape.			
REASON FOR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE The applicant is a relative of a current Councillor.			
WARD Speldhurst & Bidborough	PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL Speldhurst Parish Council	APPLICANT Mr Robert Atwood AGENT	
DECISION DUE DATE 19/04/23	PUBLICITY EXPIRY DATE 22/03/23	OFFICER SITE VISIT DATE	
RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY (including appeals and relevant history on adjoining sites):			
App No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
17/00504/TPO	Trees: Yew tree - Raise crown by two to three metres	Approved	22/03/17
14/503742/TPO	TREE - Oak (T1) - Remove limb back to main stem with possibility of further balancing of other parts of the tree	No Further Action	05/01/15
01/01519/TPO	Trees - 2 no. YEW - raise crowns	Approved	29/08/01

MAIN REPORT

1.0 DESCRIPTION OF SITE

- 1.01 Private residential garden, with gardens to most sides, fronted by small road and footpath
- 2.01 To raise the canopy of both trees by 4 to 5 metres, trim and rebalance, if necessary.
- 2.02 The reason to contain the size of these mature trees which are shading neighbours' gardens, and which have been pruned in the past.

3.0 PLANNING CONSTRAINTS

- 3.01 The tree is within Tunbridge Wells Conservation Area.
- 3.03 Tree Preservation Order reference 011/1984/TPO protects the trees that are the subject of this application.

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

4.01 The National Planning Policy Framework, 2021

4.02 DCLG – Tree Preservation Orders: A Guide to the Law and Good Practice

5.0 LOCAL REPRESENTATIONS

5.01 Site notices were placed on Speldhurst Road in February 2023

5.02 No representations were received.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.01 No consultations were made.

8.0 APPRAISAL

8.01 Yew (T1) to be crown lifted:

Contribution to public visual amenity: Minor

Useful life expectancy: Long

Are proposed works justified? Yes

Comments:

This tree was previously pruned, and it is good Arboriculture practice to maintain the tree in its given location, where controlled and sensitive pruning of overhanging and low branches can assist with the quiet enjoyment of gardens and property.

8.02 Yew (T2) to be crown lifted

Contribution to public visual amenity: Minor

Useful life expectancy: Long

Are proposed works justified? Yes

Comments:

This tree was previously pruned, and it is good Arboriculture practice to maintain the tree in its given location, where controlled and sensitive pruning of overhanging and low branches can assist with the quiet enjoyment of gardens and property.

Conclusion

8.03 The proposed works should be permitted.

9.0 RECOMMENDATION – GRANT subject to the following Condition:

(1) No pruning cuts shall be made interior to previous pruning points and all existing wound wood shall be left intact.

Reason: To minimise decay associated with pruning works and maintain the tree's

vitality.

INFORMATIVES

- (1) This decision is valid for two years from the date it was issued, and the operation may only be carried out once unless otherwise stated. If you do not carry out the works within this period, you must submit a new application if you want to proceed.
- (2) All tree work to be carried out in line with the current techniques and methods specified in the contemporary version of British Standard 3998.

Case Officer Rhodri Jones

NB For full details of all papers submitted with this application please refer to the relevant Public Access pages on the council's website.

The conditions set out in the report may be subject to such reasonable change as is necessary to ensure accuracy and enforceability.