

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:P07/0069

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| Type of approval sought | Tree Preservation Order |
| Ward | Sedgley |
| Applicant | Mr Matt Vaughan |
| Location: | O/S 19, HIGHFIELD ROAD, SEDGLEY, WEST MIDLANDS |
| Proposal | PRUNE 1 LIME TREE |
| Recommendation Summary: | APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS |

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO: D733 (2002) – T54

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

1. The tree subject to this application is a mature lime tree that is located in the front garden of 19 Highfield Road, Dudley. The property is council owned.
2. As the tree is situated in the front garden of the property it is highly visible in the street scene and provides a moderate amount of amenity to the surrounding area.

PROPOSAL

3. Summary of proposals for the works as written on application form is as follows:
 - Prune 1 lime tree.
4. The tree has been marked on the attached plan.

HISTORY

5. There have been no previous Tree Preservation Order applications on this site.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6. No representations have been received.

ASSESSMENT

Tree(s) Appraisal

| Criteria | Tree 1 |
|------------------|--|
| TPO No | T54 |
| Species | Lime |
| Height | 6m |
| Spread | 3m |
| Diameter | 450mm |
| Form | Poor – Old pollard |
| Vigour | Good |
| Approx Age | Mature |
| Pests / Diseases | None evident. |
| Canopy | Poor – old pollard |
| % Deadwood | 1% |
| Cavities | None Evident |
| Bark | Good |
| Roots | Good – restricted due to adjacent wall |
| Overall Health | Good |
| Visibility | High |
| Amenity Value | Moderate |

Further Assessment

7. The tree subject to this application is a mature lime tree that is situated in the front garden of 19 Highfield Road. The tree has been previously pollarded and as such is only a fraction of the size that an un-pollarded tree of this age would normally be.
8. The applicant would like to prune the side of the tree closes to the road in order to clear the adjacent street light. This will involve the removal of the majority of the re-growth from one side of the tree.

9. The canopy of the tree currently obscures a large amount of the adjacent street light, to the extent that when in leaf the tree will obscure a significant amount of light that comes from the lamp.
10. The tree currently has a poor form following its previous pollarding, and there will be no detrimental impact following the works. However as the tree is still re-developing its canopy following the previous pollarding, the form of the tree will improve with time.
11. The proposed works are unlikely to be detrimental to the tree's health as the tree is vigorous and has a high 'root to shoot' ratio following the previous pollarding.

CONCLUSION

12. The tree subject to this application is a mature lime tree that is located within the front garden of 19 Highfield Road. The tree is in a good condition however it was pollarded a few years ago, and as such is a fraction of the size it would be had it not been pollarded.
13. The applicant would like to prune the side of the tree that hangs over the adjacent footpath. This is to remove the growth that is currently obstructing the visibility of the street light.
14. On inspection the tree was found to be in a good state of health with good vigour. As such it is unlikely that the pruning of this tree will be detrimental to the health of the tree.
15. The pruning of the tree is unlikely to have any detrimental impact on the health of the tree as it already has a poor form following its previous pollarding. However the form of the tree will improve with time as it develops a new crown.

RECOMMENDATION

16. It is recommended that application is approved subject to the conditions set out below.

Conditions and/or reasons:

1. The tree works subject of this consent shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:1989 'Recommendations for Treework'.
2. The tree is to be inspected for bird nests and any crevices for bats. If any nests are present and disturbance to nesting or fledgling birds are present then works shall not be undertaken between 1st March and 30th August in any year. If bats are present then advice should be sought from English Nature or the local Wildlife Trust.
3. The works hereby approved shall be carried out within 12 months of the date of this decision.