

PLANNING CONSULTATION REPLY

To: Laura Bennett	Date: 16.12.2021
From: Edward Jowett	Extn: 2557

APPLICATION: 3 Tolson Court, Huddersfield Road, Penistone, S36 7BU.

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Site Appraisal

The trees are all large mature prominent specimens with high amenity value. The works proposed are to lift non-structural drooping branches to 4.5m over driveway retaining all significant limbs for Beech tree T1 and raise to 2.5m over the footpath. Ash (T2) - section fell due to dieback. Sycamore (T3) - Remove lower three limbs to lift the canopy by 4m. Sycamore (T4) - minor thinning of branches with a diameter of 50mm and under extending from the main stem (15%) and raise canopy to 5m over driveway.

The pruning works proposed for the trees are all relatively minor and to address issues with low hanging branches in the main to prevent mechanical damage from vehicles or the trees provide sufficient clearance for pedestrians along with some very minor thinning for T4. Ultimately these works amount to sensible maintenance for the trees and are in accordance with best practice.

The Ash tree to be removed is regrettably showing signs of Ash dieback and as such the only option is to remove the tree. Given the issues with Ash trees like for like replacement is not possible. As such Oak is considered a suitable replacement although if the applicant or their agent had an alternative suggestion we would be happy to listen to this.

Note: Assessments of tree condition and safety are based on a simple visual inspection from ground level. Comments should not be taken as a definitive assessment of tree health, as this should be carried out by a suitably qualified arboriculturist, possibly including a high level inspection. The applicant should be reminded of the owner's legal responsibilities to ensure that trees are regularly inspected and maintained in a safe condition.

Recommendations

APPROVE