

# PLANNING CONSULTATION REPLY

To: Dan Hood	Date: 24.10.2024
From: Edward Jowett	Extn: 2557

**APPLICATION: Rear of Alexander Gardens, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4EW.**

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## Site Appraisal

The trees are mature and early mature specimens located within a woodland area located to the rear of the properties in Alexander gardens and The Park and borders onto Dark Lane in Cawthorne. These trees therefore have a high amenity value. The works proposed were to remove Ash trees T1 - T5 due to signs of Ash Dieback and Oak trees OT1 - OT5 due to proximity issues within TPO 1/1951. Upon inspection however it was decided to amend the application to prune the five Oak trees and as such the works description was amended to the following; remove Ash trees T1 - T5 due to signs of Ash Dieback and crown lift to 2.5m and reduce overhang into Alexander Gardens back towards property boundaries to suitable pruning points for Oak trees OT1 - OT5 within TPO 1/1951

The removal of the Oak trees was not considered appropriate and as such pruning works as detailed above have been suggested as an alternative. I can confirm that the works will alleviate the issues experienced by the residents of Alexander Gardens as far as practical whilst retaining the amenity value of the trees. The works proposed are sensible and proportionate given the trees locations.

The Ash trees does have the classic symptoms of Ash Dieback and although in some instances they are not too severe they are in many instances accompanied by other issues such as decay and cavities. The locations of these trees close to properties mean that their removal and replacement must be considered acceptable.

Like for like replacement will not be possible in this instance and as such I am content that Hornbeam and Rowan would be suitable in this woodland edge location as substitute species in this instance.

**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

The above works are approved subject to the following conditions

### Replacement of felled trees

Within the first planting season the five Ash trees to be removed shall be replaced by two new Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and three new Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). A replacement tree shall be planted as close as possible to each of the trees to be removed.

Specification: Standard trees (stem diameter 10-12cm) shall be planted and affixed (with flexible tree ties) to a tanalised tree stake (minimum diameter 75mm) at a height of no more than 1m above ground level. In order to aid establishment a suitable mulch shall be applied (e.g. semi-composted woodchip to a minimum depth of 75mm) around each tree to a radius of 1m. The trees shall be watered immediately after planting then whenever required to ensure successful establishment. Within two weeks of planting the Local Authority Tree Officer shall be informed and invited to inspect the new trees. The new trees shall be subjected to a Tree Preservation Order in replacement of the felled trees. Any tree which fails to become established within 5 years from planting shall be replaced with another tree of the same original specification.

**Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.**

#### Five days notice to LPA and tree surgery to BS standards

Not less than five working days notice of the date of the proposed work shall be given in writing to the Local Planning Authority and the tree surgery shall be carried out to the standards set out in BS3998.

**Reason: To ensure the work accords with good arboricultural practice.**

#### Informatives

##### [Time limit for TPO works](#)

The proposed tree works should be completed within 2 years of the date of this consent.

##### [Permission](#)

Before proceeding with the notified works, you should ensure that you have the permission of the owner, and comply with all other relevant legislation, for example it is an offence to disturb nesting birds, and bat roosts.