PLANNING CONSULTATION REPLY

To: Matthew Marsden	Date: 11.11.2022
From: Edward Jowett	Extn: 2557

APPLICATION: 4 West View, Beacon Hill, Silkstone Common, S75 4QF.

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Site Appraisal
The site was visited by Edward Jowett and the trees were briefly inspected.

The tree is a very large fully mature Ash tree and as such has high amenity value. The tree is located on the boundary of the property overhanging an access and in close proximity to a neighbouring dwelling. The works proposed are to fell the tree due to its condition.

A tree survey has been provided with this application and details the issues with the tree. Unfortunately in this instance the issues including decay fungus and Ash Dieback necessitate the removal of the tree on health and safety grounds. The tree contains a significant amount of deadwood and there are signs of past major limb failures and ultimately is now in a state of significant decline. Unfortunately the tree has reached the end of its life and is becoming unsafe and given its location and the potential damage which could be caused to users of the track and the residential properties its removal is required

Replacement planting will be required for the tree to be removed, however the disease issues associated with Ash trees mean replacement with this species is not possible. As no replacement has been proposed by the applicant then an English Oak has been conditioned as a suitable long term replacement for the Ash tree.

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 arboriculturalist, 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 with conditions.