

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:P12/0343

Type of approval sought	Tree Preservation Order
Ward	Pedmore & Stourbridge East
Applicant	Mr Michael Houghton
Location:	278, HAGLEY ROAD, STOURBRIDGE, DY9 0RL
Proposal	FELL 1 SILVER BIRCH TREE AND PRUNE 2 CEDAR TREES
Recommendation Summary:	APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

1. The trees subject to this application are a cedar tree and a silver birch tree. The cedar tree is located in the front garden adjacent to the main driveway of the property, and the silver birch tree is located in the rear of the property adjacent to the boundary with the adjacent block of flats, and relatively close to the rear elevation of the house.
2. The Cedar tree is a large specimen that forms part of a group with other large cedars and is considered to provide a high amount of amenity to the surrounding area. The silver birch tree is almost completely screened from any wider public view due to the other trees and buildings in the area and as such it is considered to provide a low 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 Cedar tree and Fell 1 Silver Birch.
4. The application also included a proposal to remove deadwood from another cedar tree. However as permission to removed dead branches from trees is not required, these proposed works have not be considered as part of the application.
5. The trees have been marked on the attached plan.

HISTORY

6. There has been one previous Tree Preservation Order application on this site.

Application No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
P05/0966	Prune 1 Pine Tree	Approved	16/06/2005

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

7. At the time of writing no public representations have been received.

ASSESSMENT

Tree(s) Appraisal

<i>Tree Structure</i>	Tree 1	Tree 2
Species	Cedar	Silver Birch
Height (m)	15	9
Spread (m)	10	5
DBH (mm)	700	300
Canopy Architecture	Good	Good
Overall Form	Good	Good
Age Class <i>Yng / EM / M / OM / V</i>	Mature	Mature

Structural Assessment

Trunk / Root Collar	Good		Good	
Scaffold Limbs	Moderate		Good	
Secondary Branches	Moderate		Good	
% Deadwood	7%		5%	
Root Defects	None Evident		None Evident	
Root Disturbance	None Evident		None Evident	
Other				
Failure Foreseeable Imm / Likely / Possible / No	Whole No	Part Likely	Whole No	Part No

Vigour Assessment

Vascular Defects	None Evident	None Evident
Foliage Defects	None Evident	None Evident
Leaf Size	Good	Not In Leaf
Foliage Density	Good	Not In Leaf
Other		

Overall

Assessment

Structure	Good	Good
Vigour	Good	Good
Overall Health	Good	Good

Other Issues

Light Obstruction	Some	Some
Physical Damage	None Evident	None Evident
Surface Disruption	Slight lifting of Driveway	None Evident
Debris	Some	Some

Amenity

Assessment

Visible	Yes	Partially
Prominence	High	Low
Part of Wider Feature?	Yes	No
Characteristic of Area	Yes	Yes
Amenity Value	High	Low

Further Assessment

8. The applicant has proposed to fell the silver birch tree due to its proximity to the adjacent flats as the branches have now started to overhang the roof. The proposals to the cedar tree are to remove one specific limb and to reduce another to provide greater clearance from the roof of their property.
9. On inspection both trees were found to be in a healthy condition with no major defects present.
10. It is considered that the proposed pruning to the cedar tree is acceptable as the branches in question are overhanging the roof of the applicant's property. The removal of the lower branch and the shortening of the one above would serve to provide a sufficient clearance from the roof of the property. The works would have little impact on the health or the amenity of the tree and as such it is recommended that the works are approved.

11. The silver birch tree, whilst in a healthy condition is considered to be inappropriately located for a tree of its size. The tree was planted in close proximity to the wall of the adjacent block of flats. The tree has now grown up so its branches are hanging over the roof of the flats.
12. Given the low amenity value of the tree it is considered that the grounds put forward to justify its removal are acceptable and no objection should be raised to its felling.
13. Overall it is considered that the proposed works are acceptable, and the application should be approved.

CONCLUSION

14. The applicant has proposed to prune the lower branches of a cedar tree to provide more clearance from the roof of the property and to fell a silver birch tree due to its location immediately adjacent to the neighbouring block of flats.
15. The pruning of the cedar was considered acceptable as it will have little impact on the health and amenity value of the tree. The felling of the silver birch tree was found to be similarly acceptable as the tree is considered to provide little amenity to the area.

RECOMMENDATION

16. It is recommended that the application is approved subject to the stated conditions.

Conditions and/or reasons:

1. The tree works subject of this consent shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 'Recommendations for Tree work'.

The Limes Hotel

Treford Court

CHADDESLEY DRIVE

HAGLEY ROAD

PEDMORE

Lansdowne Court

1 to 15

T2

T1

Newman House

111.3m

155.0m

114.8m

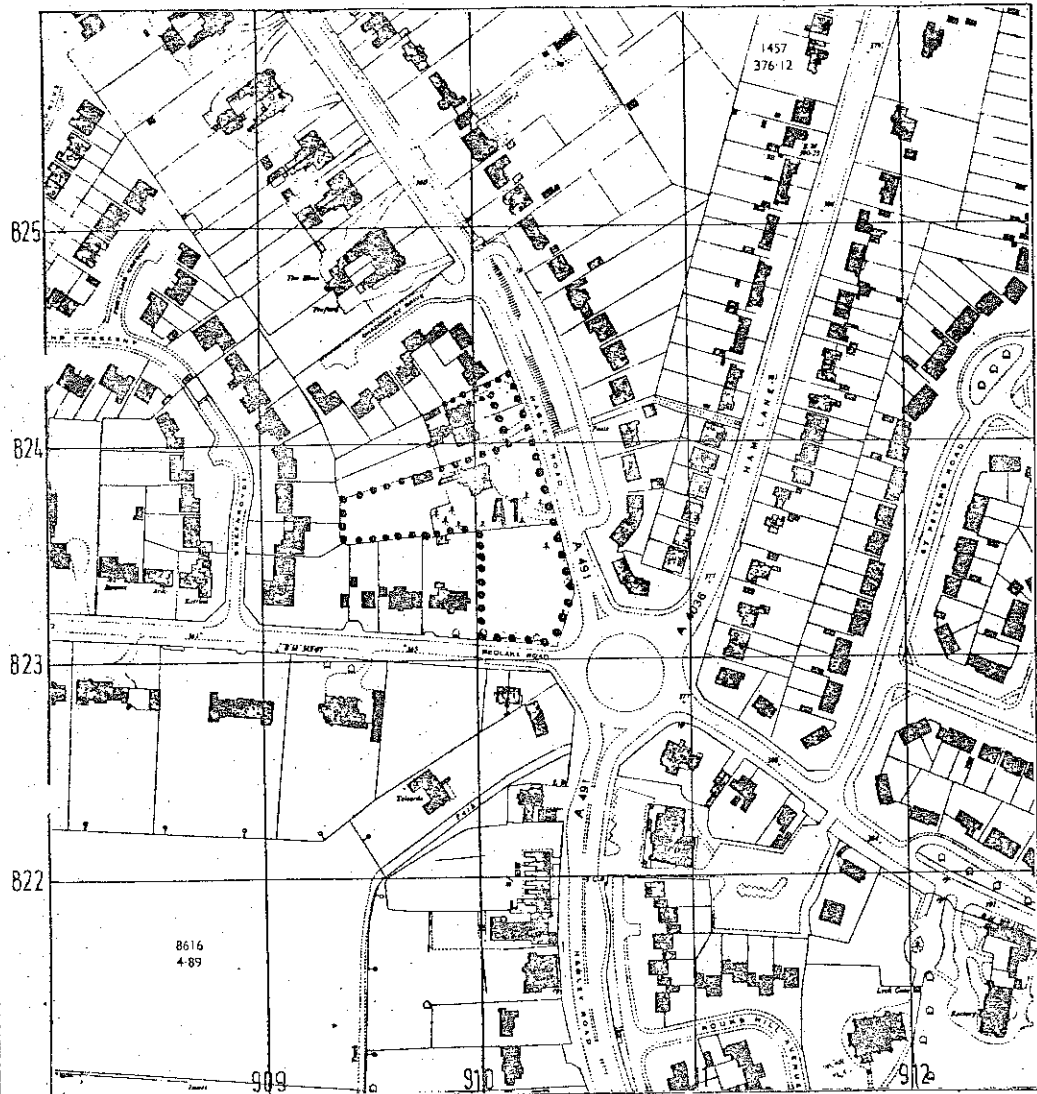
El Sub Sta

Shelter

Foley Arms (PH)

Wychbury

COUNTY OF WORCESTER
(HAGLEY ROAD, STOURBRIDGE)
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 1973



Scale:- 1:2500
Grid. ref. 910823

OS. Sheets:- 9082-9182
edition 1969

The common seal of the Worcestershire
County Council was affixed hereto in
the presence of:-

(Signed) W. R. SCURFIELD
Clerk of the County Council

FIRST SCHEDULE

TREES SPECIFIED INDIVIDUALLY

None

TREES SPECIFIED BY REFERENCE TO AN AREA
(within a dotted black line on the map)

<u>No. on map</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Situation</u>
A 1	The several trees of what-ever species standing in the area numbered A1 on the map.	In the Borough of Stourbridge. On the OS Sheets SO 9082 and SO 9182. Edition of 1969.

GROUPS OF TREES

None

WOODLANDS

None