

LOCATION PLAN – 383 Bradford Road, Birkenshaw



Map not to scale – for identification purposes only

Electoral Wards Affected: Birstall and Birkenshaw

RECOMMENDATION:

DELEGATE approval for consent to tree works as specified in Tree Work Application 2018/91620

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the information required to make a decision regarding this Tree Work Application.
- 1.2 Members are required to make this decision as it is stipulated within the Delegation Agreement for Investment and Regeneration, “all applications submitted by or on behalf of... any Elected Member or a member of their family.”

2.0 SITE AND SURROUNDINGS:

- 2.1 The application relates to a tree in the grounds of 383 Bradford Road, Birkenshaw, BD19 4BQ. The tree subject to this application is protected by Tree Preservation Order 40/89.

3.0 PROPOSAL:

- 3.1 The proposal is to carry out pruning of one Copper Beech tree to the rear of the property.
- 3.2 The applicant is a Mr Marc Thompson, who is a Councillor for Birstall and Birkenshaw. As a result this application must be decided at committee according to the Delegation Agreement.

4.0 RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

- 4.1 None

5.0 HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS:

- 5.1 N/A

6.0 PLANNING POLICY:

- 6.1 N/A

7.0 PUBLIC/LOCAL RESPONSE:

- 7.1 None

8.0 CONSULTATION RESPONSES:

- 8.1 N/A

9.0 MAIN ISSUES

- 9.1 The application is to crown lift to allow light beneath the tree and a crown reduction to stop encroachment onto the building and hindering drainage of a nearby flat roof.

10.0 APPRAISAL

- 10.1 In making a decision regarding a Tree Work Application for the pruning of protected trees. The Council firstly needs to assess whether the pruning applied for is arboriculturally sound and reasonable.
- 10.2 The Copper Beech was a mature tree with fairly even canopy, though naturally slightly one-sided to the south due to available light. The tree was within 5m of the property and the canopy overhung the flat roofed area and had grown up to the existing building and were in contact with the fabric of the building; as such damage could begin to occur if left to grow unchecked.
- 10.3 The tree had been crown lifted in the past and as the tree has continued to grow new branches have begun to hang down. The removal of these smaller secondary branches will not be detrimental to the tree's health and vitality.

11.0 CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The position of this large growing specimen has brought it into conflict with the adjacent property and the proposed remedial pruning will help to reduce the risk of future issues provided ongoing future maintenance is also carried out.
- 11.2 The crown lifting would result in a higher crown and should avoid potential injury for pedestrians. The crown reduction will remove the potential for contact with the fabric of the building.
- 11.3 The consent should specify in more detail the extent of the pruning in order to prevent over pruning of the crown and potential harm to its long term health. The recommended consent is given below:
- Crown lift removing small diameter branches only (less than 10 cm in diameter) to give 4m ground clearance.
 - Prune back from property, pruning to suitable growth points and removing branches less than 10 cm in diameter, to provide 2m clearance from the fabric of the building and reducing the height and spread where appropriate to maintain its shape and form by no more than 2m.

12.0 RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS

- 12.1 The following conditions are standard conditions issued with all permissions for pruning of protected trees:
- 1) That ALL tree operations outlined in this notice be carried out within ONE year of the date of this notice. If for any reason such works are not completed within this period a new application must be made to the Council.
 - 2) That all tree work shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998: 2010 Tree Work- Recommendations
 - 3) That branchwood shall not be burned on site.

Background Papers:
Copy of the Application

Photograph 1 & 2 - showing proximity to building and low crown

