

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF KNOWSLEY

'Regeneration and Economic Development Department

APPLICATION NO: 21/00512/TWA
Management Company

APPLICANT: Weston Park

WARD AFFECTED: Halewood North

DEVELOPMENT: REMEDIAL WORKS TO 5NO. TREES, FELL 1NO. TREE

LOCATION OF SITE: Weston House Nursery, North End Lane, Halewood,
Knowsley, L26 5QB,

NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION:

The ward members and local residents have been notified and there have been no responses.

ISSUES AND ASSESSMENT:

Site Location

The application refers to trees situated within the grounds of Weston House Nursery, North End Lane, Halewood.

Background

The TPO in this case was created in to afford protection of the trees within the grounds of the former Weston House nursery, created in 1991.

The Town and Country Planning Act states that Tree Preservation Order may make provision for prohibiting the cutting down, lopping, uprooting, wilful destruction of trees except with the consent of the Local Planning Authority.

The Application

The application seeks consent to carry out the removal of 1 sycamore tree, Crown lift 5m and part reduction of 2m to 5 sycamores. The reason given is the unacceptable risk that the sycamore poses and the pruning works to clear building.

Arboricultural Report

The site has been inspected by the Arboricultural Officer who makes the following comments:

The sycamores stand approx. 17m in height, the trees are in reasonable condition for their age and species. The pruning works recommended would not have an impact of the health of the trees nor the amenity value of the trees. The trees cannot be seen clearly from the surrounding area and are part of a larger woodland.

The single sycamore, marked out for removal, does have a decay column going up the stem of the tree. This decay column compromises the integrity of the tree, increasing the likely hood of failure especially since the tree is more exposed to prevailing winds. The loss of the tree would not influence the amenity value the woodland provides to the area.

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RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that consent be granted for the removal of 1 sycamore and the crown lift and part reduction of a further 5 sycamores, as stated within application ref: 21/00512/TWA with the following conditions:

- 1) The tree work hereby granted shall consist of felling of 1 Sycamore and 5m crown lift & 2m reduction of 5 Sycamores

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to comply with Saved Policy DQ4 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan, adopted June 2006.

- 2) All work should be completed in accordance with BS 3998:2010 (Tree Works).

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to comply with Saved Policy DQ4 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan, adopted June 2006.

- 3) Five working days written notice shall be given to the Arboricultural Officer before commencement of the works hereby granted.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to comply with the application.

- 4) The Sycamore tree should be replaced on a one for one basis, as close to the original position as possible with a Sycamore of a size not less than 12-14cm girth. The tree should be planted as soon as practically possible but within 1 year of the removal of the tree. Once this has been implemented the Council's Arboricultural Officer should be informed within 3 days on 0151 443 2281. Should the replacement tree(s) fail to establish within a period of five years thereafter it shall be replaced in kind during the first planting season following the date of the loss or damage.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity, to allow for the continuation of tree cover within the area and to comply with Saved Policy DQ4 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan, adopted June 2006.

Tom Skipworth
Arboricultural Officer
25/08/21

Signed
Mark Quinn
25/08/2021

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