

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF KNOWSLEY

'Regeneration and Economic Development Department

APPLICATION NO: 23/00115/TWA **APPLICANT:** Halsnead Park Ltd

WARD AFFECTED: Whiston & Cronton

DEVELOPMENT: REMEDIAL WORKS TO 2NO TREES, 2NO HEDGES
AND 2NO. BUSHES

LOCATION OF SITE: Halsnead Park, Windy Arbor Road , Whiston, Knowsley,
L35 3QE,

NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION:

The ward members and local residents have been notified, there have been no objections to the application and one letter of support has been provided.

ISSUES AND ASSESSMENT:

Site Location

The application refers to six tree features located within the grounds of Halsnead Park, Windy Arbor Road, Whiston.

Background

The TPO in this case was created in 1964 to afford protection to the trees located within the grounds of Halsnead Park, Windy Arbor Road, Whiston.

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 undertake remedial works to 6No. trees

Arboricultural Report

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

Features H1 and H2 are Leylandii hedgerows around 8m in height. These features appear to have been originally planted to form a boundary hedge around the property with the intention of maintaining the height long term. Upon inspection these features were both overgrown and the application to reduce these features will have no impact to the health or amenity value that these features offer to the area.

During on-site discussions with the owner of Halsnead park, they informed me of a Fir tree that was in a rear garden they had concerns of the safety value of. During the inspection this tree is was noted to be in reasonable shape and form and had no health and safety issues. This application has requested to reduce this tree in height by 33%. Reduction in height, or 'topping' as it's commonly referred to, is an outdated practice and does not follow the guidelines as set out in BS5837:2012. Therefore, it is my recommendation that the works for T3 are refused.

T4 is a cherry tree around 8m in height. This application has requested to reduce this tree in height by 33%. Reduction in height, or 'topping' as it's commonly referred to, is an outdated

Document Reference	Document Issue Number	Document Issue Date
PS/DC/OP04/05	003	23/9/02

practice and does not follow the guidelines as set out in BS5837:2012. Therefore, it is my recommendation that the works for T4 are refused.

T5 and T6 are two features that were originally planted as shrubs but due to non-maintenance they have now overgrown to around 7m in height each. The reduction of these features will bring them back to their original forms and will not have a detrimental impact to the health and amenity values of these features.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that consent be granted for features H1, H2, T5 and T6.

It is recommended that consent is refused for features T2 and T3.

- 1) 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.

- 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) The works must be implemented no later than the expiration of two years beginning with the date of this permission.

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

- 4) The proposed works to T3 and T4 are refused as they do not follow the guidelines as set out in BS3998:2010 and will cause a detrimental impact to the amenity value these features offer the area.

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

Signed Case Officer¹: J Henderson

Signed Authorising Officer²: K Foster

Date: 4 July 2023

¹ I confirm that I do not have a personal relationship with the applicant, agent or other interested parties; I also confirm that I do not have a financial interest in the site or the development proposed

² I confirm that I do not have a personal relationship with the applicant, agent or other interested parties; I also confirm that I do not have a financial interest in the site or the development proposed

Document Reference	Document Issue Number	Document Issue Date
PS/DC/OP04/05	003	23/9/02