

Application for Tree Works: Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

Applicant Details:

Stephen Blackburn-Hind

4 Heather Hill Close, Earley RG67EF

Tree Details:

Species: European Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)

Number of Trees: 2

Height: 25 metres

Canopy Spread: 5 metres

Owner:

Location: 30 Henley Wood Road, Earley

Tree Protection Order Reference: TPO-1614-2017

Identification and Specification of Works:

Of the two European Ash trees (see Sketch) one is located at the boundary of my property, and due to the proximity of the two trees to each other most of its growth is over my garden.

The proposed works are as follows:

1. 20% Crown Reduction: Reduce the overall canopy by 20% to manage the tree size and improve light penetration.
2. Deadwood Removal: Remove all dead, dying, or structurally unsound branches to reduce the risk of falling debris.
3. Selective Pruning: Thin the canopy where necessary to alleviate competition between the two trees and promote their health.
4. General Maintenance: Shape the trees to maintain an even and stable structure while ensuring they remain in harmony with the surrounding environment.

All work will be conducted in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 (Tree Work – Recommendations) by a qualified arborist

Reason for Work:

1. **Safety Concerns:** Falling branches pose a hazard to garden users, including children playing on climbing frames, slides, and decking areas. Recent instances of branches falling on our garden decking area and damaging a Gazebo highlight the need for remedial action.
2. **Tree Health:** The trees have not been pruned in over a decade and show signs of deadwood. Proper pruning will promote their long-term health and stability.
3. **Competing Growth:** The two trees are in close proximity and are competing for nutrients and space, leading to structural imbalances and stress on root systems.
4. **Garden Impact:** Extensive root spread has inhibited grass growth, affecting the usability and aesthetics of the garden

Supporting Evidence:

1. Sketch Plan.pdf - Sketch of tree locations with respect to properties and gardens
2. Site Map.jpg, TPO Ref 1.jpg, TPO Ref 2.jpg - Protected Tree Map
3. Both Trees Side View.jpg - Shows the 2 Ash Trees and how close
4. Dead Branches.jpg, Deadwood Falling.jpg - Safety concerns over deadwood
5. Overhang Decking.jpg, Overhang Kids Play Area.jpg - Hazard to garden users
6. Grass not growing.jpg - Affects usability of garden and shows how imbalanced these trees are

Two Ash Trees



Dead branches







Overhang on decking area, gazebo current gone



Kids play area, also gets falling branches



Root system imbalance, grass not growing



Conclusion:

This work is essential to maintain the trees in a safe and healthy condition while balancing their preservation with practical concerns. The proposed crown reduction and pruning will ensure the trees remain structurally sound while mitigating risks to property and personal safety. The work will be carried out by a qualified arborist.

I kindly request the council's approval for these necessary tree works.

Signature: