

Wrexham Tree Report

Application No.	P/2014/0430	TPO or C/A Ref.	No.21(1985) G1
Proposal	Trim epicormic growth annually on lime trees up to a height of 4m above ground level		
Location	'Sunnyside' 10 Rhosnesni Lane, Wrexham		
Applicant	Mr. S. O'Keefe		

Consultation Responses

30th June 2014 – Acton Community Council. No objection but would wish to ensure any works carried out are supervised by Arboricultural Officer.

Report

Four mature common limes situated to rear of the applicant's land in garden of Sunnyside. According to the plan on file the owner, Dr Ashworth, has been consulted over the proposal and no record on file of an objection being made.

The trees are situated 1m back from fence and are estimated to range in height from 16-22m and have DBHs of 350-750mm. The largest tree is at the western end of the row. The trees have good vigour. As the applicant was away and the garden inaccessible the trees were not examined close up.

At the time of the inspection the epicormic growth was minimal and possibly may have been removed since the application was made?

The epicormic growth is longest on the biggest tree at western end at +-1m. Second lime from eastern end has a fresh pruning cut and tear 9m above ground level where +-125mm diameter branch removed.

The trees afford amenity within the cul-de-sac and are visible in the wider townscape.

The proposal is quite minor because it is limited to a height of 4m and comprises of young branches. It is debateable whether an application is required under the TPO for such minor works because it might not be regarded as 'lopping'.

As the regulatory authority officers of the LPA cannot be expected to directly supervise tree works on private land as per community council request.

From the description the applicant is seeking consent to undertake the work annually on an open ended basis. It is possible that the granting of an open ended consent, even for minor tree works, could lead to problems at some time in the future due to unforeseeable circumstances. (To this end the regulations in England restrict consents to two years by default).

I would suggest that a consent for 5 years represents a compromise, after which the applicant need to re-apply.

Recommendation

Grant

Conditions/Reasons

1. This consent is limited to the annual pruning of epicormic growth for a period of five years.

REASON: To ensure the consent is not for an indefinite period.

2. All tree pruning shall be carried out in strict accordance with the British Standard BS3998(2010) Recommendations for Tree Work.

REASON: To ensure the work is carried out to a satisfactory arboricultural standard that safeguards the amenity afforded trees.

Note To Applicant

For the avoidance of doubt this consent does not give you, or a contractor, a right of access onto your neighbour's land to carry out the work specified.

Officer

SB

Date

7th August 2015