

Wrexham Tree Report

Application No.	P/2015/0281	TPO or C/A Ref.	No.173(2011) A1
Proposal	Reduce height of trees within hedgerow to a height of 2-2.5m when measured above ground level		
Location	Land to rear of Old Orchard, School Lane, Overton		
Applicant	Mrs. M. Evison		

Consultation Responses

4th May 2015 – Conservation Officer British Falconers' Club. Would like to see more in depth details of the work and time schedule.

Report

Outgrown hedge adjoining a new residential development, Bramble Close.

The vegetation could also be described as a line of trees but due to its consistent and modest height is not a hedgerow with hedgerow trees.(!)

As the outgrown hedgerow is within the boundary of A1 on the plan and meets the description in the TPO schedule the trees are covered by the TPO.

The species, in the hedge, in descending amounts comprise hazel, hawthorn, holly, elder, hornbeam, beech, philadelphus, and bramble. (The last two are not trees). There is also a fair amount of ivy growing up the stems.

The height of the outgrown hedge is nominally 6m but is slightly taller at the far end of Bramble close, where it is 7-8m.

The hedge is generally healthy but has a few gaps at the entrance to the close.

The applicant is not the owner of the orchard or the hedge but instead maintains the verge on Bramble Close that the hedge fronts onto.

The proposal involves quite a heavy reduction of the outgrown hedge but will re-establish a pattern of management to which the vegetation is suited. The effect on amenity will be limited.

It is likely that the TPO was never intended to protect the outgrown hedgerow trees and was only meant for the fruit trees in the orchard. A lower height for the hedge will increase the amenity afforded by the trees in the orchard due to increased visibility.

Topping the vegetation to create a hedge form will not comply with the British Standard for Tree Work, hence no planning condition for it to meet this requirement.

If the hedge is maintained at the lower height I would not consider future TPO applications would be necessary because the tree species will no longer be of tree form and just part of the hedge.

Recommendation

Grant

Conditions/Reasons

1. The work shall be completed within 24 months of the date of consent unless the Local Planning Authority agrees to an extension of this period in writing.

REASON: To ensure the work is carried out within a reasonable period.

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