

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/24/2082/TPO

Location: THE PRIORY, ST BEES.

Officer: Chloe Wootton

Date: 04 April 2024

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
Mixed hedge of Elder, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Field Maple	Reduce height of hedge situated within a Conservation Area to approximately 1.5 metres
REASON	
'The trees in question are a mixed hedge of Elder, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Field Maple which have been neglected for some time and some of which have grown greater than 75mm at breast height. I propose to reduce the hedge to approximately 1.5 metres so that it can be managed as a hedge in future by the church volunteers.'	

DISCUSSION

The trees are in the early-mature to mature age category and show signs of normal vitality. The trees are currently unmanaged and appear to be a grown-out hedgerow.

From the Cumberland Council website, the site falls within the St Bees Conservation Area. A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) does not protect the trees.

We consider the reasons for the work detailed in the application to be acceptable and given the age of the trees, we expect the trees will continue to grow once the work has been carried out.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 2) shows these trees do not merit a TPO.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Inform the applicant they can carry out the work in the notification or wait for the six-week determination period to lapse.

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TEMPO Assessment					
Part 1: Amenity Assessment					
a) Condition & Suitability	5-Good = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 3-Fair/Satisfactory = <i>Suitable</i> 1-Poor = Unlikely to be <i>suitable</i> 0-Dead/dying/dangerous = <i>Unsuitable</i>	Old Hedgerow	b) Retention span (in years) & suitability for TPO:	5-100+ = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-40-100 = <i>Very suitable</i> 2-20-40 = <i>Suitable</i> 1-10-20 = <i>Just suitable</i> 0-<10 = <i>Unsuitable</i>	Old Hedgerow
		3			4
c) Relative public visibility & TPO	5-Very large with some visibility, or prominent large trees = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-Large trees, or medium trees clearly visible to the public = <i>Suitable</i> 3-Medium trees, or large trees with limited view only = <i>Suitable</i> 2-Young, small, or medium/large trees visible only with difficulty = <i>Barely suitable</i> 1-Trees not visible to the public, regardless of size = <i>Unsuitable</i>	2	d) Other factors – trees must have accrued 7 or more points (with no zero score) to qualify:	5-Principal components of formal arboricultural features, or veteran trees 4-Tree groups, or principal members of groups important for their cohesion 3-Trees with identifiable historic, commemorative or habitat importance 2-Trees of particularly good form, especially if rare or unusual 1-Trees with none of the above additional redeeming features (inc. those of indifferent form) -1-Trees with poor form or which are generally unsuitable for their location	1
Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:			Part 3: Decision guide		
5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only	Old Hedgerow	1	Any 0 = <i>Do not apply TPO</i> 1-6 = <i>TPO indefensible</i> 7-11 = <i>Does not merit TPO</i> 12-15 = <i>TPO defensible</i> 16+ = <i>Definitely merits TPO</i>	Old Hedgerow	11