

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/24/2285/TPO

Location: 1 FLEATHAM GARDENS, HIGH HOUSE ROAD, ST BEES.

Officer: Demi Crawford

Date: 27 September 2024

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
T1 & T2	1x Ash & 1x Sycamore	Fell one Ash tree and prune back one Sycamore tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order.
REASON		
'This application is for: T1 - Remove by felling one Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>). The tree is suffering from Ash Dieback and is now 80% defoliated, recovery no longer possible (see photo) T2 - Prune back branches of one Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) to give 3m clearance to front bedroom window.'		

DISCUSSION

The Ash tree is in the mature age class and shows signs of declining health from Ash Dieback disease.

The Sycamore tree is in the mature age class and shows signs of normal health.

From the Cumberland Council website, Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No.1:2004 (75) protects these trees. The website does not indicate whether the trees are protected as part of a Group, Area or Woodland Order.

Given the declining health of the Sycamore tree, we expect the Ash tree will survive for less than five years. Therefore, we consider it acceptable to fell the tree to avoid branch or trunk failure.

Given the health, age and size of the Sycamore tree, we expect the proposed work will not be detrimental to the health of the tree or impact the local or wider amenity of the area. Therefore, we consider the proposed work is acceptable.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend informing the applicant that they can carry out the work in the application subject to the following conditions.

We recommend attaching the following conditions:

1. Carry out all work in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations section 7.7 ‘Crown reduction and reshaping’.

Reason: In accordance with Section 198 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and in the interest of good arboricultural practice.

2. The felled tree is to be replaced during the first planting season following the work. Plant 1x Birch (*Betula* species) trees, 6-8cm girth and ‘light-standard’, within 4m of the felled tree it replaces. Alternatively, another size, species, location, or period should be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. If the replacement tree is diseased, dies, or is damaged within 5 years of the date of planting, it must be replaced in the next available planting season by another of a similar size and species.

Reason: To ensure the continuity of amenity in accordance with ‘Policy DM28 – Protection of Trees’ of the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028