

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/25/2128/TPO

Location: THE PRIORY, ST BEES

Officer: Nick Hayhurst

Date: 22 May 2025

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
T1 to T5	2x Sycamore; 1x Cherry; 1x Holly & 1x Horse Chestnut	T1, Sycamore. Sycamore with extensive decay and evidence of <i>Polyporus squamosus</i> . Propose reducing height by approximately 50% of its current full height to minimise the risk of stem failure. T2, Cherry. Branch encroaching on lane being struck by delivery vehicles. Propose pruning branch 1.5m clear of lane. T3, Holly. Propose 2m crown lift to allow access to graves for grounds maintenance workers. T4, Horse Chestnut. Clear prune from lamppost and footpath. T5, Sycamore. Re coppice sycamore that is growing too close to the stone wall.

DISCUSSION

These trees are in the mature age category and show signs of normal vitality.

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 work detailed in the application is reasonable to prevent the trees becoming a nuisance.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 2) shows a TPO is defensible, but given the work the applicant is proposing, we consider it is unwarranted at this time.

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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a) Condition & Suitability:		Part 1: Amenity Assessment											
	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>	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	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>	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
		3	3	3	3	3			2	4	4	4	4
c) Relative public visibility & suitability for 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>	4	4	4	4	4	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	1	1	1	1
Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:		T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	Part 3: Decision guide		T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only		1	1	1	1	1	Any 0 = Do not apply TPO 1-6 = TPO indefensible 7-11 = Does not merit TPO 12-15 = TPO defensible 16+ = Definitely merits TPO		11	13	13	13	13

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