

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/25/2330/TPO

Location: THE PRIORY, ST BEES

Officer: Demi Crawford

Date: 15 October 2025

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS	REASON
T1	1x Poplar	Pruning of branches on Black Poplar tree (T1) situated within a Conservation Area.	'T1, Black Poplar. Low hanging branches from the tree are striking the church roof on windy days. Propose reduction pruning of low branches to provide 2m clearance of church building.'

DISCUSSION

	The Poplar tree is in the mature age class and shows signs of normal vitality. The tree is growing at a raised elevation and the lowest branches to the south are close to the church roof. From the Cumberland website, the site is within the St Bees Conservation Area. We consider the work detailed in the application reasonable to prevent a tree causing damage. Our TEMPO assessment (page 2) shows a TPO is defensible; however, we consider it unwarranted at this time given the detailed work specification.
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RECOMMENDATIONS

Inform the applicant they can carry out the work in the application.

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TEMPO Assessment					
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 3	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 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	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	2
Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:		T1	Part 3: Decision guide		T1
5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only		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>		14