

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/26/0654: The Shoemakers Cottage Cowfold Road Coolham**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:

Shipley Parish Council has stated no objection to this proposal, subject to the considerations of the HDC Arboricultural Officer.

No additional representations have been received in respect of this application.

ASSESSMENT:

1. The trees the subject of this application are ten Ash, within the rear garden of Shoemakers Cottage that fall with the area covered by the Area Order ref TPO/0788 served on 20/07/1994. The trees are considered to be of an age where they would have been present with the area when the TPO came into force and are therefore considered to befit form its protection.

2. The applicant seeks consent to fell ten ash trees located within the rear garden of Shoemakers Cottage, due to concerns with the trees suffering with infection by Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*).

3. The Ash trees in question are displaying clear and evident signs consistent with infection by Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), a serious disease affecting ash trees throughout Europe. Symptoms observed on site include crown dieback, significant leaf loss, and general decline in vitality. Two of the trees appeared to be completely dead, having succumbed to the disease.

4. Within the wider TPO area at the property there are a number of mature specimens, upwards of 40 trees, predominantly oak, together with some Norway maple and a shrubby understorey comprising hawthorn. Whilst the removal of the ash trees would result in a fairly substantial loss of tree cover within the property and would be noticeable from immediately adjoining properties, the overall impact on wider public amenity is considered to be relatively limited due to the density of tree cover retained on the site, and those within the surrounding properties.

5. The removal of the Ash trees would also provide additional growing space for the adjoining oak trees and other established vegetation, allowing these specimens to develop and mature more effectively.

6. Given the clear evidence that the ash trees are infected with Ash Dieback, together with their location within the rear garden of a residential property, their removal is considered acceptable on condition and safety grounds. Furthermore, the extent of retained tree cover within the site means that the wider impact on amenity resulting from their loss would be limited.

7. Whereby, Within the wider TPO area there is already a high density of tree cover, comprising a number of mature oak specimens, Norway maple and a substantial shrubby understorey. Given the residential nature of the site and the significant level of retained tree cover, it is not considered necessary or appropriate to require replacement planting for the loss of the Ash trees. The amenity contribution currently provided by the Ash trees will continue to be largely maintained by the remaining trees at the property, whilst the additional space created by their removal will allow neighbouring trees greater opportunity to develop and mature.

8. Therefore, it is in this instance considered appropriate to grant consent for the removal of the Ash trees without a requirement for replacement planting, due to the additional mature tree coverage, at the property, which will remain protected under the TPO coupled with the limited public visibility of the Ash trees indicated for removal.

RECOMMENDATION:

Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:

- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. TR2 | <i>Time limit, 2 years</i> |
| TINF1 | <i>Note to applicant.</i> |
| TINF2 | <i>Wildlife protection.</i> |

DELEGATED

Authorising Officer sign.....ANBU.....**Arboricultural Officer (Strategic Planning).**

Date.....17 Aug 26...