

# Rossendale

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Mr John Calway  
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This matter is being dealt with by:  
Name: Mr Michael Atherton  
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Our reference: TPO 2022/015  
Date: 26/04/2022

Dear Sir

**Borough of Rossendale – Tree Preservation Order at Aldenbrook, Sunny Bank Road, Helmshore, Rossendale. BB4 4FE**

**Proposal: Fell three Ash (T53, T59 and T62) and one Horse Chestnut (T55).**

**Location: Aldenbrook, Sunny Bank Road, Helmshore, Rossendale. BB4 4FE**

**Assessment:** Amongst the group of trees on the area of land there are three Ash, one large and mature the others, smaller and semi-mature but drawn tall due to competition. The largest is T62 and is on the apex of the area of land at the junction between Free Lane (B6214) and Woodbank. The smaller two are T53 and T59 and are more towards the centre of the land. All three trees, however, have a road within their falling arc and T62 has large branches overhanging the roads and all three are exhibiting significant crown die-back which is probably due to Chalara Ash die-back.

Advice from the Forestry Commission and Arboricultural Association normally suggests that trees should be pruned and monitored as they may prove to be immune/resistant. However, given the extent of die-back and the proximity of road and other targets, felling on safety grounds is the only reasonable course of action.

Due to the density of trees on this area of land, replacement trees would not thrive and the duty to plant replacements could therefore be waived.

Horse Chestnut T55 is reported to be affected by Honey Fungus but, upon inspection, I could not find evidence of that. I did, however, see an area of Bacterial Wet Wood slime flux at about one metre above ground level on the north side of the trunk. Infection by this disease does not warrant felling as trees can recover given the opportunity and the buds appeared to all be swelling and opening satisfactorily. I would therefore suggest that this tree is monitored.

I did notice that a separate Horse Chestnut (T61) has a significant wound on the south side of the trunk extending from ground level to almost three metres up the trunk. The wound is occluding and appears to be dry and not decaying but it should be monitored. No application for work on this tree has been submitted at this time.

**Decision:** Consent: Fell three Ash T53, T59 and T62.

Refuse: Fell one Horse Chestnut T55.

**Conditions:**

1. All work in accordance with BS 3998 (2010) Tree work recommendations in the interests of health and amenity of adjacent trees and of safety.

There is a right of appeal against refusal or conditions attached to a consent.

Yours faithfully,

*Mike Atherton*

Mike Atherton

Head of Planning