

Application Number:	P2022/0705
Site Address:	4 Cwm Nant Llwyd Road, Gellinudd.
Proposal:	Works to woodland protected under Tree Preservation Orders T198 and T249. The works include removal of dangerous trees (T1, T3, T5, T7, T8 and T9), Sever Ivy on T4, cut back trees along G1, Thin out G2, Crown Lift to G3, woodland thinning and crown lifting to improve amenity value of woodland and to allow access to maintain the area.

Tree Officer Comments

The proposed work in this application will remove a number of potentially dangerous trees. The remaining woodland will remain undisturbed therefore the work will not have a major impact on the local landscape.
Due to the above facts I would recommend that the works are allowed to proceed.
All work must be completed in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations and current good practice

Tree Officer Recommendations.

Agree with works proposed	Yes
Recommend Refusal of Works	No
Vary Works Proposed	No

If to vary works, suggested description of amended works.

N/A

Public Consultations

Neath Town Council – no response received.

There are no site adjoining neighbours to consult however, a site notice was displayed on 31st August 2022

In response, to date no representations have been received.

Planning Officer Assessment

Assessment

The application trees are located in an area to the East of the host dwelling, Penybont. The trees within the land have been identified as potentially dangerous to other healthier trees. Within the Tree Risk Survey, it has proposed to remove T1 *Alder*, T2 *Ash* (Crown Dieback), T3 *Ash* (Crown Dieback and diameter deadwood) T4 *Ash* (Crown Dieback, diameter deadwood). In addition, the application seeks to remove the Ivy from T4.

The application proposed a peripheral strip of trees along Cwm Nant Llwyd Road to be cut back 1m to give better appearance and access to wires and future fence maintenance. An area annotated as G2, is densely populated and is proposed to remove dead waste trees. It is proposed to raise the Crown of a tree area known as G3 by 2m to allow for better access to the whole area.

The Authority's Arborist has subsequently inspected the site, and provided the aforementioned comments outlined within the 'Tree Officer Comments' section of this report. Based upon the Authority's Arborist recommendation, it is recommended that the application be approved.

Usually when an application for felling is approved, a scheme of replacement planting is requested. However, given the general density of the trees and future maintenance, it would not be within the interest of the surrounding trees to provide additional planting.

Conclusion

It is considered that the proposed works will not have an adverse effect on the visual appearance of the area or general residential amenity, nor will it negatively impact upon the pedestrian and highway safety or endanger the long term health of the remaining trees protected by the Tree Preservation Order. Hence, the proposal is in accordance with Policies SP15 and EN7 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

Having regard to the above assessment, the following recommendation is made

RECOMMENDATION:

That the application be approved, subject to the following conditions:

Time Limit Conditions

1. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out within 2 years of the date of this consent.

Reason: To enable the Local Planning Authority to reconsider the appropriateness of the works in the light of possible changed circumstances.

INFORMATIVES

1 The applicant is made aware that consent should be acquired from the land owner prior to works taking place. This decision does not override the need for permission from any landowner, and if works are carried out without this consent, it is at the applicant's own risk.

2 Any tree clearance work or felling must be undertaken outside of the bird breeding season (which runs from end March to beginning of August), in order to avoid conflict with the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If any vegetation needs to be cleared during the bird breeding season it should first be checked for nesting birds by a fully qualified ecologist with findings recorded

3 Bats often roost in trees, and work on these trees may disturb a bat roost. All bats and their roosts are protected against disturbance under UK and European legislation. If works are planned on a tree in which bats are roosting, Natural Resources Wales must be contacted.

If work has already commenced and bats are found, or if any evidence that bats are using the site as a roost is found, work shall cease and Natural Resources Wales should be contacted immediately.

Where bats or their roosts are present, no works of felling, lopping or pruning shall take place unless a licence to disturb these species and/or their roosts has been granted in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Natural Resources Wales can be contacted at:-

Natural Resources Wales, Ty Cambria, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0TP, 0300 065 3000.

Bat Conservation Trust can be contacted at:-

5th Floor, Quadrant House, 250 Kennington Lane, London, SE11 5DR, 0345 1300228.