

Note: As the tree overhangs Langton Road it may require some maintenance work in the future if branches begin to obstruct the highway.

T6: Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*)

An uncommon tree, particularly in the north of England, this is a good specimen that probably dominates the street view of the house and therefore has a high amenity value. Being evergreen, it provides year round cover for birds and invertebrates. It has provided nesting opportunities for wood pigeon and coal tit (*Periparus ater*), although many other species use the tree for cover, shelter and feeding. It provides permanent shade which keeps the area under the canopy dark and cool. This has allowed us to introduce fallen deadwood habitat under the canopy with all the resultant benefits for specific invertebrates that favour this habitat as well as providing hibernacula for common frog (*Rana temporaria*), therefore: **No objection**.

Proviso: A significant portion of the tree overhangs the highway (Langton Road). This can present problems for access along the highway, particularly for high vehicles and the school buses which pass by almost every day. The tree has regularly been struck by such vehicles usually resulting in damage to the branches of the tree. We therefore require permission to carry out some minor crown reduction on the road side of the tree in the near future (probably within the next two years). This would be kept to an absolute minimum and would only be undertaken to allow unimpeded vehicular access along the road and safe pedestrian access along the adjacent footpath.

We look forward to hearing from you once you have met with the Tree Preservation Order Working Group so that we may know whether we can proceed with the proposed tree works.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Guy and Wendy Cunnington