

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Vicki Wood.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/01560/TCA	T3: Beech - Crown reduction of about 5m.	Land Opposite 11 High Street Barkway Hertfordshire SG8 8EA

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Photo

1.0 Policies

1.0 **Planning Practice Guidance**

1.1 Tree Preservation Orders and Trees in Conservation Areas 2014

1.2 Hertfordshire County Council Tree and Woodland Strategy 2022–2030

1.3 North Hertfordshire Council Tree Strategy 2017

2.0 **Relevant Site History**

2.1 23/02580/TCA - Sycamore – Remove. No objection.

2.2 23/02146/TCA - T1 Sycamore - Dismantle in sections and reduce remaining canopy 3m. T2 Horse Chestnut - Reduce overhang. T3 Beech - Raise canopy to 5m, remove major deadwood and reduce back overhanging limbs. Works to include reduction/removal of Hawthorn tree to front of T1. No objection.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The application site is located on the western side of the High Street and is historically part of the garden land to no.11 High Street (a grade II listed building) and is within the Barkway Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to T3: Beech - Crown reduction of about 5m.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the tree; the impact of the proposed work on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area; any justification for the proposed work and; whether, taking full account of the above, it would be expedient and in the public interest to make a Tree Preservation Order.

4.3.2 The tree is identified as no.3 on the submitted site plan. Supporting information including photographs of the tree show a recent branch failure and there is a potential danger of further failures. The tree is a mature specimen and in close proximity of residential dwellings.

4.3.3 The land belonging to no.11 High Street is one of the few houses in the village to retain such open space and there is significant public amenity value to the trees in this location.

4.3.4 I am satisfied that the proposed works would seek to ensure the longer-term management of the tree and the continued contribution it makes to the value of the wider group of trees.

4.3.5 I do not consider a Tree Preservation Order would be appropriate at this stage.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works to the Beech tree is acceptable and will not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Barkway Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed work.

Signed  Ben Glover	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 24 June 2025	