

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

24/02526/TCA

Cherry - Remove

106 Ridge Road

Letchworth Garden City

Hertfordshire

SG6 1PT

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Photos

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 None.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 LGCHF – None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The site where the tree works are proposed comprises of a listed property located to the east side of a row of six terraced residential dwellings and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to remove a Cherry tree.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the trees; 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 on the submitted site plan and the application is accompanied by a covering letter dated 10th October 2024 from Middleton Tree Services Ltd together with photographs of the tree.

4.3.3 The Cherry tree is a mature specimen positioned in the rear garden and within relatively close proximity to the dwelling. The covering letter and supporting photographs indicate that the tree is suffering from Gummosis, a condition caused as a result of stress to the tree which can arise from several causes. Treatment is available; however, the tree is mature and is understood to be nearing its lifespan, hence treatment and prognosis being questionable. There are numerous trees located to the rear boundary and immediate surrounding area. Given the position of the tree in relation to the dwelling, its age and condition, I satisfied that its limited amenity value would not result in any significant harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area and is acceptable.

4.3.4 Further protection of the tree by way of a Tree Preservation Order would not be appropriate in my view.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 The loss of the tree is not considered to result in such harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

- 5.2 Informative added requesting replanting.

Informative/s:

1. In an effort to combat climate change, North Hertfordshire Council advises that a native tree be planted within the rear garden of the property following removal of the Cherry tree. Please make sure you are familiar with the planting season which runs from 1st November until 31st March, this will give the tree the best chance of survival.

Signed  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 3 December 2024	