

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02567/TCA	T1: Lime - Crown reduction and thinning by 30% (11-feet). T2: Cotoneaster - Cut back away from the shed.	The Gates 24 High Street Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6AX

Submitted Plan Nos

Sketch 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 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The property is a grade II listed building which sits on the west side and fronting the High Street and is within the Baldock Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T1: Lime - Crown reduction and thinning by 30% (11-feet).

T2: Cotoneaster - Cut back away from the shed.

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 trees are identified on the submitted site plan and the application is supported by photographs of each tree.

4.3.3 Both trees are sited alongside the party boundary with the neighbouring property to the southeast. The Lime tree is a mature specimen which appears visually healthy. The proposed works would see a 30% reduction to the crown which in this location is reasonable. The Cotoneaster tree is a small specimen which again appears visually healthy. However, the angle of growth means that the crown extends over an outbuilding with the proposed works seeking to reduce the overhang which is again reasonable.

4.3.4 The rear location and level of maturity means that the Lime tree offers a degree of private amenity value whereas the location and size of the Cotoneaster tree between two outbuildings greatly reduces its amenity value.

4.3.5 I am satisfied that the works are necessary to ensure the longer-term management of the trees, and that the proposed works would not result in harm to their amenity value or result in any significant harm to the character and appearance of the Baldock Conservation Area.

4.3.6 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the trees and therefore there is no evidence to suggest further protection is needed by way of a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works to the trees would not harm their amenity value to a significant degree. As such, the work would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Baldock Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 22 November 2024	