

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Francis Mabbett.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

26/01893/TPO

BEYT023: Birch - Crown reduce back
from structure by up to 2m.

Land At
Rosemont Close
Letchworth Garden City
Hertfordshire
SG6 4XR

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

23/02440/TPO - T15 Hornbeam - Epicormic Removal, Crown Lift to 2.4m over footpath.- Conditional consent

23/02441/TPO - 011 Pine - Crown lift to 2.4m over Footpath, crown lift to 5.2m over highway. 012 Pine - Crown lift to 5.2m over highway. 013 Hornbeam - Crown lift to 2.4m over footpath, reduce back from streetlight by 2m, sever and strip Ivy. 014 Norway Maple - Epicormic removal, crown lift to 2.4m over footpath, reduce back from streetlight by 2m. 016 Silver Birch - Epicormic removal. 017 Silver Birch, 018 Norway Maple - Fell. 019 Whitebeam - Crown lift to 2.4m over Footpath. 021 Silver Birch - Crown lift to 2.4m over footpath, deadwood and ivy strip and Sever. - Conditional consent

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

BEYT023 – Birch (applicants plan) is located in the area to the west corner of site behind a tiled roofed shed on the edge of the car park. The site is not within a Conservation Area, but the tree is protected by A1 of TPO/088.

4.2 **Proposal & Reason**

BEYT023 – Birch - Crown reduce back from structure by up to 2M. Current Height 13M Crown Radius 4M. Projected Height 13M Projected Crown Radius 3M.

4.3 **Key Issues**

The key issue for consideration is whether the reason provided justifies proposed works and the appropriateness of these given that the tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

- 4.3.1 No reason has been provided, but it is clear from the site visit the lower crown of the tree is in contact with the adjacent building. Birch generally have an exceptionally poor ability to form barriers against development of dysfunction and decay in the xylem and pruning wounds should ideally not exceed 40mm. However, the size of branches to be removed should not produce over large pruning wounds and the tree should tolerate this minimal pruning, without significant ill effect.

4.4 Conclusion

- 4.4.1 The proposed works appear reasonable and are necessary to avoid conflict with the adjacent structure. The impact to the tree is considered low with a minimal effect on its visual appearance anticipated and therefore refusal would be hard to justify.

4.5 Alternative Options

- 4.5.1 None applicable

4.6 Pre-Commencement Conditions

- 4.6.1 None applicable

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 That planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:-

1. The works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998 - Recommendations for Tree Work and in a manner so as to ensure that the natural and aesthetic appearance of the trees are maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that the works are undertaken to an acceptable standard which will not harm the health of the tree(s).

2. The works shall be undertaken only by a competent and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor or tree surgeon as capable of carrying them out to an acceptable standard.

Reason: In order that the works are undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.

Signed  Saffron Loasby Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
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Date: 17 September 2026	
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