

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Andrew Hunter.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

24/01857/TPO

T1: Silver Birch - Fell to ground level.

88 Symonds Road

Hitchin

Hertfordshire

SG5 2JL

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

2.1 See Uniform.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 None.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

The site comprises a semi-detached dwelling with one tree within one group TPO (TPO/103). The site is in a residential area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Silver Birch - Fell to ground level.

4.3 **Key Issues**

The key issue for consideration is the visual impact the proposed works would have on the amenity of the area.

The reasons for the proposed removals are:

The tree is too large for its location and causes excessive shade. The trunk is pushing over the fence. Neither of these issues can be mitigated through pruning.

The application should be assessed in accordance with Government guidance, including on the impacts of the proposal on the amenity of the area.

The tree is in close proximity to a rear boundary fence, and does appear to have pushed the fence causing a lean, therefore there is an impact as the applicant suggests. The tree is large relative to the garden of the dwelling, and is considered that it causes shading.

The tree is in close proximity to another Silver Birch, which is not proposed to be removed, and would be considered to compensate substantially for the removal of the tree proposed as this would limit the impacts of its removal. The existing tree is also not considered to be a specimen of a high quality appearance. There are no objections to the removal of this tree.

Due to the small size of the rear garden of the site and as a nearby similar tree would remain nearby, it is not considered that replacement tree planting is required.

As such I would not raise objections to the proposal subject to the conditions below.

5.0 **Recommendation**

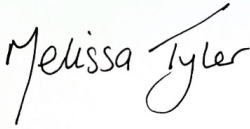
5.1 That Tree Preservation Order Consent be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

1. 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.

2. 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).

Signed  Melissa Tyler	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 7 October 2024	