

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02651/TCA	T2: Silver birch - Crown reduce to previous points to leave viable growth where possible. Reduction of approx 1-1.5m	7 Silver Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5QJ

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

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 21/03345/TCA - T1 Silver birch - Crown reduce to previous points to up to 2m. All pruning to viable growth points. No objection.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 Ashwell Parish Council – No objection.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 7 Silver Street is an end of terrace property located on the south side of Silver Street within the Ashwell Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T2: Silver Birch - Crown reduce to previous points to leave viable growth where possible. Reduction of approx 1-1.5m.

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 by number on the submitted location plan and the application is accompanied by a photograph of the tree.
- 4.3.3 The Silver Birch tree is located in the rear garden of the property. Given the height of the tree within close proximity to neighbouring residential properties, a crown reduction of up to 1.5m is considered reasonable and justified. Whilst the tree contributes towards private amenity value, there would be no impact to the streetscene as a result of the proposed works given the built-up nature of the area which screens rear gardens from public view points in Silver Street.

- 4.3.4 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the tree 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 tree would not harm its amenity value to a significant degree. As such, the work would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Ashwell Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed <i>Andrew Hunter</i> Andrew Hunter	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 16 December 2024	