

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01023/TCA	T1: Holm Oak - Crown reduction of 30%. Reduce the height and spread by 2-3m.	Fontenoy Greenfield Lane Ickleford Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3YH

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

96/01206/1TCA - Pruning of Oak Tree – No objection

08/00827/1TCA - Fell 1 Robina and 3 Holly trees; formatively prune 3 Silver Birch trees and lift lower canopy of 1 Holm Oak to approximately 4 metres from ground level – No objection

19/02170/TCA - T1 Holm Oak - Crown Reduce by approx. 15%. T2 Fir - Fell– No objection

20/02913/TCA - T1 Holm Oak - Crown reduce by 30% - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

Holm Oak (applicant's plan) is located on the South boundary of the rear garden and close to the North side of St Katherines Church. The tree is visible to the public realm and to surrounding properties. The site is within the Ickleford Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Holm Oak - Crown reduction of 30%. Reduce the height and spread by 2-3m.

4.3 **Key Issues**

The key issue for consideration is the impact that the proposed works would have on the character, appearance and amenity of the Conservation Area.

4.3.1 The tree is highly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The Holm Oak is a large mature tree with a spreading crown and has a history of pruning, including crown reductions. Oak has a highly durable heartwood which reduces the risk of extensive decay following pruning. The tree should respond well to the proposed works as it has previously and although there will be some initial negative impact on the amenity of the tree the works are similar to prior operations. The works will serve to maintain the tree at a suitable size where it is unlikely to conflict with the church building.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact upon the character, appearance and amenity of the Ickleford Conservation Area.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

4.5.1 None applicable

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

4.6.1 None applicable

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 No objection.

Signed  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 15 May 2026	