

## DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

| APPLICATION REFERENCE | BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT                | APPLICATION SITE                                                                           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26/00427/TCA          | T1: Oak - Reduce branches over Driveway by 2-3m | Pixmore Junior School<br>Rushby Mead<br>Letchworth Garden City<br>Hertfordshire<br>SG6 1RS |

### **Submitted Plan Nos**

#### **1.0 Policies**

##### **2.0 Site History**

None relevant

##### **3.0 Representations**

None received.

##### **4.0 Planning Considerations**

###### **4.1 Site and Surroundings**

Oak (applicant's plan) subject of this application is located on the East boundary of Pixmore Junior School grounds. The tree is highly visible to the public realm and surrounding properties. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

###### **4.2 Proposal**

T1: Oak - Reduce branches over Driveway 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 Another application under ref 26/00413/TCA for similar works was submitted at the same time and received a decision of No Objection. Neither works are to be undertaken in addition to the other as they effectively apply for the same works which should be completed once only within 2 year period of decision.
- 4.3.3 The Oak is large mature tree with a spreading crown. Some ivy is present on the trunk and partway up the scaffold branches. The tree is in overall fair condition with good form and is a prominent feature of the street scene in this location. The tree is considered to have high amenity value and substantially contributes to the overall appearance of the surrounding area. The crown does spread to the east across Rushby Mead and over the applicant's driveway. The shortening back of branches over the driveway, will have minimal effect on the overall amenity of the tree, it will mitigate the problems caused to the applicant's driveway and may serve to bring the overlong branches back in accord with the natural drip line of the canopy.
- 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 Letchworth 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.

|                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Signed</p> <p></p> <p>Melissa Tyler</p> | <p>Development Management<br/>North Hertfordshire District Council<br/>Council Offices<br/>Gernon Road<br/>Letchworth<br/>Herts<br/>SG6 3JF</p> |
| <p>Determining Officer</p> <p><b>Date:</b> 23 March 2026</p>                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |