

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02080/TCA	667: Holm Oak - 4m crown reduction. 681: Holm Oak - 3m reduction in crown (as amended by plan received on 30/09/2024).	Ashwell Cemetery Station Road Ashwell Hertfordshire SG7 5LW

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 Various applications, full case history on file.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 **Ashwell Parish Council** – None received as they are the applicants.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 Ashwell cemetery is located to the northeastern side of the village and is within the Ashwell Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

667: Holm Oak - 4m crown reduction.

681: Holm Oak - 3m reduction in crown

(as amended by plan received on 30/09/2024).

4.2.2 The amended plan identifies the location of tree 681 which was not shown on the location plan originally submitted.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the trees; 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 trees are identified by number on the submitted site plan and form part of a wider scheme for general maintenance works.

4.3.3 The trees are positioned to the boundary of the cemetery and would benefit from crown reduction works. The trees offer public amenity value given their presence forming a border to the site. Notwithstanding this, the works to the trees is considered justified in order to maintain their longer-term management and their continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Ashwell Conservation Area.

- 4.3.4 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the trees 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 trees would not harm their 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  Tom Rea	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 15 October 2024	