

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Henry Thomas.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02273/TCA	Various works including felling	Land Adjacent To 15 Field Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LF

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Tree report

1.0 Policies

2.0 Site History

- 2.1 21/02667/TCA - T1 Scots Pine - Fell. G1 Group of mixed species - Crown clean remove major deadwood remove ivy from Sorbus. G2 Group of mixed species - Reduce overhang away from boundary. T2 Scots Pine - Crown clean removing major deadwood only

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 None.

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

- 4.1.1 The application site covers an area of land to the rear of residential properties on Field Lane and Broadway in the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 Proposal

- 4.2.1 Looking for consent to fell the following trees:

- 1.0 **T2 - Plum (1090000615)** Tree leaning and growing into boundary fence east; suppressed growth due to neighbouring tree; cohesive crown.
- 2.0 **T4 – Sorbus (1090000640)** - Ivy covering base and union 1m height impeding inspection; major band moderate deadwood in crown over desire line; unidentifiable fungal fruiting bodies 8m height; cavity 9m height north side on west stem.
- 3.0 **T7- Acer (1090000631)** – Severe lean west over boundary fence line and garden; suppressed growth due to neighbouring trees
- 4.0 **T12 – Cherry Plum (1090000535)** - Dead or dying tree; ivy covering base and entire stem impeding inspection; cavity 1m height east with signs of decay; top of tree removed; overhanging garden boundary east
- 5.0 **T21 – Plum (1090000698)** - Ivy covering base and entire stems impeding inspection; top torn out of west stem; overhanging garden boundary west.

Dead trees exempt from consent (seeking to fell or monolith):

- 6.0 **T5 – Scots Pine (1090000625)** – Dead, ivy covering stem from 1m to top of tree impeding inspection; major and moderate deadwood present in crown, some overhanging boundary west; sparse crown.
- 7.0 **T13 – Sycamore (1090000654)** - Dead or dying from sooty bark disease; major and moderate deadwood in crown.
- 8.0 **T16 – Sycamore (1090000673)** - Major and moderate deadwood present throughout crown; major hanger 16m height south; significant signs of sooty bark disease.
- 9.0 **T22 – Scots Pine (1090000666)** - Ivy and snow impeding basal inspection; slightly sparse crown; some major and moderate deadwood in crown.
- 10.0 **T23 – Scots Pine (1090000671)** - Ivy impeding basal inspection; dead ivy covering stem to 12m impeding inspection; sparse crown; cohesive crown.
- 11.0 **T24 – Scots Pine (1090000669)** - Dense undergrowth impeding basal inspection; asymmetrical crown; slight phototropic lean south; moderate deadwood in crown.

4.3 Key Issues

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

- 1.0 The trees are located to the rear of residential properties on Field Lane and Broadway with limited visibility from the street scene.
- 2.0 The tree report submitted identifies the following defects:
 - 2.1 T2 lean and suppressed crown.
 - 2.2 T4 cavity and fungal infection.
 - 2.3 T7 severe lean, short life expectancy.
 - 2.4 T12 dead or dying,
 - 2.5 T21 poor physical condition.
- 3.0 As such, it is my view that the condition of these trees justifies their removal. In my view, they are not of sufficient quality or public amenity value to warrant the further protection of a Tree Preservation Order.
- 4.0 T5, T13, T16, , T23, are identified as dead or dying on the tree report. I therefore have no objection to their removal.
- 5.0 Although T22 and T24 are not identified as dead on the tree report, the agent has since provided evidence to prove their status. As such I have no objection to the removal of dead trees.

4.4 Conclusion

The proposed works would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact upon the character and appearance 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.

Signed  Sarah Kasparian	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 14 November 2024	