

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

26/01235/TCA

T1, T2: Lebanon Cedar - Prune by
approx 10% (3m on each limb)

St Katherines Parish Church
Arlesey Road
Ickleford
Hertfordshire
SG5 3UX

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

Various tree works applications, most recent:

18/00667/TCA - T1 - Lime - fell to ground level – No objection

18/03101/TCA - 2x Yew – Remove - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T1-T2 Cedars (applicants plan) are within a group of Cedars and are the closest 2x trees to the Church building on its southern aspect. The trees are visible to the public realm as members of the group of Cedar trees within the churchyard. The site is within the Ickleford Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1, T2: Lebanon Cedar - Prune by approx 10% (3m on each limb)

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 trees are visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 T1 – T2 Cedar trees are large mature trees with crowns extending close to and partly over the church building. The crowns also hang low over gravestones beneath. T2 has lost its central leader, with the remaining limbs long and mainly free of foliage within the central crown. Most foliage is located close to the ends of the limbs creating a ‘lion’s tailing’ affect, that makes the limbs more susceptible to wind and snow loading. This is quite common in Cedars, so a reduction of limbs in accord with the submitted photographs and a 10% reduction of the crowns to mitigate the effects of this is necessary to prevent damage to the church building, surrounding graves and to reduce the likelihood of branch failure. The works are unlikely to be detrimental to the health or amenity of the Cedar group or greatly affect their visual appearance to the public realm.

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 Intan Keen Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 19 June 2026	