

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02301/TCA	Yew - Reduce height by 4m and 3m width	Church Of St Mary Magdalene Church Lane Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8EJ

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Photos

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 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 St Mary Magdalene Church is Grade I listed and is located to the western side of the village off Church Lane and is within the Barkway Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

Yew - Reduce height by 4m and 3m width.

4.3 **Key Issues**

- 4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the tree; 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 tree is located in the churchyard and to the north of Lych Gate. A photograph is submitted with the application and shows a large branch to have broken from the tree. Given the tree forms part of a wider group of trees which are visible to public view their amenity value is greater. Notwithstanding this, the works to the tree is considered justified in order to maintain its longer-term management and continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Barkway Conservation Area. There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the tree 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 tree would not harm its amenity value to a significant degree. As such, the work would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Barkway 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: 17 October 2024	