

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01904/TCA	T4: Hawthorn (amended) - Fell. T5: Prunus - To establish a new pollarded framework to mitigate the risk over the neighbouring property.	32 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PN

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

21/02418/TCA - Plum - Crown reduction by 30% - No objection

26/01491/TCA - T1: Lilac - Prune out the deadwood and shape the remaining crown to improve appearance and maintain a balanced form.

T2: Hawthorn - Reduce the crown to match the height of the neighbouring hedge line and reshape to maintain a neat and uniform appearance. T3: Hawthorn - Remove to as close to ground level as possible and grind the stump to a maximum depth of 150mm below ground level. T4: Plum - Carry out a crown thin to reduce density within the canopy and laterally reduce selected branches to manage the overall crown spread whilst retaining the natural shape. - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T4 Hawthorn (amended) and T5 Prunus (applicant's plan) located on the south-west boundary of the rear garden of the property. The trees are not visible to the public realm, but are visible to neighbouring properties. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T4: Hawthorn (amended) - Fell. T5: Prunus - To establish a new pollarded framework to mitigate the risk over the neighbouring property.

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 not visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 T4 was identified as a Hawthorn and therefore the species was amended. This is a small tree that is casting shade and competing for light with vegetable plots beneath. Its removal will have an insignificant impact on the area and improve growing conditions for other plants.

4.3.3 T5 is a large mature plum tree that spreads over the neighbouring garden. The crown expresses the normal crowded state of branches and water shoots expected with this species, along with tight forks and a general untidy appearance. The proposal to establish a new pollard framework is a vague, but given the tree is not visible to the public realm any works will have a negligible effect on the amenity of the surrounding area.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any 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.

Signed  Intan Keen	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 2 September 2026	