

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/00166/TCA	Willow, 3x Lime - Reduction/pollard by 50%	Cantlebury Chapel Street Hinxworth Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5HW

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

Various tree works applications, but most recently 20/01186/TCA, 20/01315/TCA

3.0 **Representations**

None

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

Tree A Willow (applicant's plan) is located adjacent to the pond to South of the property outside the main garden area. Trees B 3x Lime (applicant's plan) are located adjacent to the NW side of the garage. The trees are highly visible to the public realm and within the Hinxworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

3x Lime - Pollard to previous points, Willow - Reduction/Pollard by 50%

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 highly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The Willow has undergone heavy reduction previously and appears to have been managed as a pollard since. There is large longitudinal cavity at the base on the NW side and this type of management ensures the tree can be retained for as long as is practicable. At the time of my visit the proposed work in this application had already been undertaken on this tree prior to the expiration of the section 211 notice.

4.4.3 3x Lime trees are a line of regularly pollarded trees that appear to have been managed in this way for some time. Re-growth from previous pollarding operations is good showing the trees have good vigour and have responded well to previous works. The works will have a short-term negative impact on the amenity of these trees, but cyclical pollarding of this species, which has considerable ability to regenerate new shoots, minimises the size of dysfunctional wood resulting from delayed pruning operations, is good arboricultural practice and aligns with the previous management of these trees.

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 Hinxworth Conservation Area.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

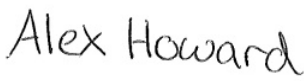
4.5.1 None applicable

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

4.6.1 None applicable

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 No objection.

Signed  Alex Howard Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 13 February 2026	