

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/00196/TCA	Hazel, Elder: - Reduce up to a 3m. Lime: Up to a 3.5m Re-Pollard	53a High Street Whitwell Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 8AJ

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

None relevant.

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

Lime tree (applicant's plan) subject of this application is located at the front of the property, while the Elder and Hazel (applicant's plan) are located in the rear garden (note Elder and Hazel labelling on applicant's plan should be reversed for accuracy). The Lime tree is highly visible to the public realm where as the Elder and Hazel are partly visible from the public footpath and to surrounding properties The site is within the Whitwell Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

Up to a 3m Reduction to Hazel Tree and Elder Tree. Up to a 3.5m Re-Pollard to a Lime Tree

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 The Lime tree appears to have been managed as a pollard for some time. Re-growth from previous pollarding operations is good showing the tree has good vigour and has responded well to previous works. The works will have a short-term negative impact on the amenity of this tree, 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 this tree.

4.3.3 The reduction of the Hazel and Elder will also have a temporary negative impact on the amenity of these trees, but they are located in a small rear garden where space is limited, have undergone similar works in the past and should cope well with the proposed works.

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 Whitwell 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  Anne McDonald	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 13 February 2026	