

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/00063/TCA	T1: Holly - Reduce height by approx 2m to 3m. Light pruning on the sides and overall width by approx 1m. T2: Apple - Reduce height by approx. 2.5m. Prune back the sides by approx 1m on all sides. Crown to be thinned, remove deadwood, shape and balance.	43 High Street Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8EA

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

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 None.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The application site where the tree works are proposed comprises of a listed property located on the east side of the High Street and within the Royston Conservation Area.

4.1.2 The application is supported by a schedule of works and photographs of the trees dated 8th January 2025 prepared by GWB Horticulture Ltd.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T1: Holly - Reduce height by approx 2m to 3m. Light pruning on the sides and overall width by approx 1m.

T2: Apple - Reduce height by approx. 2.5m. Prune back the sides by approx 1m on all sides. Crown to be thinned, remove deadwood, shape and balance.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the trees; 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 trees are identified on the submitted plan and are located in the garden to the rear of the dwelling.

4.3.3 The Holly tree is within close proximity to the party boundary with the neighbouring property to the south known as no.47 High Street. It is clear from the submitted photographs that the tree would benefit from an all-round reduction. The Apple tree is

to the most eastern point of the party boundary and does not have excessive growth and spread, however a reduction and overall tidy up would not harm the tree. Whilst there is a degree of private amenity value provided by the trees this is somewhat limited due to their position within the rear garden and I am satisfied that the works are necessary to ensure the longer-term management of the trees.

- 4.3.4 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the trees 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 trees would not harm their 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  Paul Chaston Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 24 January 2025	