

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/00157/TCA	T1: Common Ash - Monolith. T10: Common Ash - Remove deadwood. T11: English Oak - Remove deadwood. T12: Cherry Plum - Sever ivy. T13: English Elm - Fell. T2: Common Ash - Sever ivy, crown reduce T3: Hornbeam - Remove deadwood. T4: Common Ash - Sever ivy. T5: Common Ash - Monolith. T6: Common Ash - Monolith. T7: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove over extended limb east towards road back to stem. T8: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove back to stem, lowest extended limb with cavities west 8m height. T9: Common Ash - Reduce approx 2.5m height and laterals approx 1m to suitable growth points to reduce sail effect on union.	Land Between Sollershott Hall And Spring Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire

Submitted Plan Nos

Tree report

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 23/02750/TCA - G1 - Oak - Crown reduce by up to 2m to previous pruning points. Ash - Crown reduce by up to 4m to previous pruning points. Ash - Fell. Ash - Crown reduce 5-8m. No objection.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The site where the tree works are proposed relates to an area of land between Sollershott Hall and no.502 Spring Road and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T1: Common Ash - Monolith.
T2: Common Ash - Sever ivy, crown reduce.
T3: Hornbeam - Remove deadwood.
T4: Common Ash - Sever ivy.
T5: Common Ash - Monolith.
T6: Common Ash - Monolith.
T7: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove over extended limb east towards road back to stem.
T8: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove back to stem, lowest extended limb with cavities west 8m height.
T9: Common Ash - Reduce approx 2.5m height and laterals approx 1m to suitable growth points to reduce sail effect on union.
T10: Common Ash - Remove deadwood.
T11: English Oak - Remove deadwood.
T12: Cherry Plum - Sever ivy.
T13: English Elm - Fell.

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 the application is accompanied by a Tree Report dated 16/01/2025.
- 4.3.3 The Tree Report identifies 13 trees all of which require varying amounts of work, all of which appear reasonable and justified and in accordance with the action recommended in the report. With the exception of trees T1, T5 and T6 which are to have a monolith and T13 which is to be felled, the works would ensure the longer-term management of the trees.

- 4.3.4 The works to trees would not result in harm to their overall amenity value as a group, with no significant harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area.
- 4.3.5 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the remaining 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 as a group to any significant degree and would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.
- 5.0 **Recommendation**
- 5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed work.

Informative/s:

1. In an effort to combat climate change, North Hertfordshire Council advises that a native tree be planted on the land following removal of the English Elm tree. Please make sure you are familiar with the planting season which runs from 1st November until 31st March, this will give the tree the best chance of survival.

Signed  Paul Chaston Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 24 January 2025	

