

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02237/TCA	4 x Plum - Reduce in height to suitable growth points by up to 1.5m	38 Back Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5PE

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Photo

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 None.

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 **Ashwell Parish Council** – None received.

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

- 4.1.1 The application site comprises of a two-storey residential dwelling with rear garden located on the northern side of Back Street and within the Ashwell Conservation Area.

4.2 Proposal

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

4 x Plum - Reduce in height to suitable growth points by up to 1.5m.

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 site plan and the application is accompanied by a photograph showing the four Plum trees.

4.3.3 The position of the trees is such that they are sited along the rear party boundary with no.5 Dovecote and have grown to a height where their location needs to be managed in order to control their impact on both the residential nature of the area and that of no.5 Dovecote. There is limited visibility of the trees from public view and so a reduction of 1.5m to the height of the tree would not impact on amenity value. In my view, the works to the trees are considered justified in order to maintain their longer-term management and their continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Ashwell Conservation Area. 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 works would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Ashwell Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed work.

Signed	Development Management
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 Ben Glover	North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 6 November 2024	