

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/02099/TCA	Horse Chestnut - Reduce two branches by half reduce canopy by 1/3rd.	Homestall The Mount Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8JG

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 Various applications, full details on case file.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The Homestall is a large, detached dwelling which is a Grade II listed building in the Barley Conservation Area. Situated off The Mount and to the rear of The Chequers PH. The property is largely screened by numerous mature trees across its substantial garden areas.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works: Horse Chestnut - Reduce two branches by half reduce canopy by 1/3rd.

4.3 **Key Issues**

- 4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the tree; 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 tree is identified on the submitted site plan which is accompanied by a photograph in support of the application.
- 4.3.3 The tree is located in the southwestern corner of the front garden of the property. The photograph submitted in support of the application shows two large branches overhanging the highway, it is these branches where a reduction is proposed. In addition to the reduction of the two branches, the proposed works involve a reduction to the canopy of the tree by one third. The tree is a mature specimen which would benefit from a crown reduction. The front boundary with The Mount has numerous mature trees which provide screening to the property and also contribute towards public amenity value. Notwithstanding this, the works to the tree is considered justified

in order to maintain its longer-term management and continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Barley Conservation Area. There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the tree 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 tree would not harm its amenity value to a significant degree. As such, the work would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Barley Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 26 September 2024	