

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

CONSENT FOR TREE WORK

Correspondence Address:

Stewart Bell
23 High Street
Whitwell
Hitchin
SG4 8AJ
United Kingdom

Applicant:

Stewart Bell

PARTICULARS OF DEVELOPMENT

Application: 26/00630/TPO

TPO Reference: 12

Proposal: T1: Horse Chestnut - Pollard to historical points. T2: Horse Chestnut - Pollard to historical points and remove dead limb. T3: Horse Chestnut - Fell. T1, T2, T3: Yew - Reduce height 3/4m and 2/3m from lateral limbs to balance crown. T2: Yew - Reduce height 1.5/2m and 2/3m from lateral limbs to balance crown.

Location: 23 High Street, Whitwell, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 8AJ

Plan Nos: Location plan

PARTICULARS OF DECISION

In pursuance of its powers under the above-mentioned Act, Regulations and Tree Preservation Order, the North Hertfordshire District Council, HEREBY CONSENT to T1: Horse Chestnut - Pollard to historical points. T2: Horse Chestnut - Pollard to historical points and remove dead limb.

T3: Horse Chestnut - Fell. T1, T2, T3: Yew - Reduce height 3/4m and 2/3m from lateral limbs to balance crown. T2: Yew - Reduce height 1.5/2m and 2/3m from lateral limbs to balance crown. as specified in the application received by the Council on the 10 March 2026 subject to the following conditions:

1. Following the felling of T3 Horse Chestnut hereby permitted being carried out, a replacement standard Field Maple tree with a stem girth of minimum 10 to 12cm shall be planted within the same vicinity of the removed tree. The replacement tree planting shall be carried out in the first full planting season following the felling. Any trees which within a period of 5 years from planting die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with another of a similar size and species. For the purpose of this condition the planting season shall mean the period from November - February
Reason: In order to enhance the amenity of the Conservation Area and safeguard the longevity of the Area Tree Preservation Order.
2. The works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998 - Recommendations for Tree Work and in a manner so as to ensure that the natural and aesthetic appearance of the trees are maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that the works are undertaken to an acceptable standard which will not harm the health of the tree(s).
3. The works shall be undertaken only by a competent and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor or tree surgeon as capable of carrying them out to an acceptable standard.

Reason: In order that the works are undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.

The tree works referred to above should be completed within 2 years from the date of this decision notice.

Informatives:

1. The season for nesting birds is 1st March to 31st August, please ensure between these dates the trees are checked for any nests or other wildlife prior to undertaking the works. Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, all birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is an offence, within certain exceptions, to: intentionally destroy a wild bird's nest while it is being used or built. There are other exemptions, this one being the most likely situation relevant to this case. For further details please refer to the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wild-birds-protection-surveys-and-licences>
2. You are also advised that where tree works are to be undertaken it is the legal responsibility of the contractor to check for bats. If bats are found during the course of any work to trees where not previously anticipated, then works should immediately stop and Natural England notified for appropriate advice. For further details please refer to the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bats-protection-surveys-and-licences>

Signed:



Shaun Greaves

Development and Conservation Manager

Development Management
North Hertfordshire District Council
Council Offices
Gernon Road
Letchworth
Herts
SG6 3JF

Date: 16 April 2026

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NOTES

- 1 If you are aggrieved by this decision, you may appeal to the Planning Inspectorate at Suite C, 4th Floor, Spectrum Building, Bond Street, Bristol, BS1 3LG (telephone number: 0117 372 8192 and email: environment.appeals@planningportal.gov.uk) by notice on a form available from that office within 28 days from the receipt of notification of this decision or in exceptional circumstances, such longer period as the Secretary of State may agree.