

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Francis Mabbett.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01371/TCA	T1: Yew - Reduce height by 4m and reduce crown by 30%. T2: Sycamore - Reduce height by 4m and reduce crown by 30%.	The Croft Arch Road Great Wymondley
	T3, T4, 2x Horse Chestnut T5 Sycamore (species amended) - Reduce height by 6m and reduce crown by 40%. (To previously reduced levels).	Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7EU

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

Various tree works applications at the site, the most recent:

25/01646/TCA- 3x Yew - Crown thinning of 30% and height reduction of 4m- No objection

26/00655/TCA - T1: Horse Chestnut - Removal of dead tree. T2,T3,T4 and T5: Horse Chestnuts - Crown thinning by 30% and reduction in height by 4 meters. - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T1: Yew (applicants plan) is located on the North boundary of the site close to the Village Hall, while T2: Sycamore, T3-T4 2x Horse Chestnut, T5: Sycamore (amended) (applicants plan) is located close to the west boundary adjacent to the tennis court and garage block. The trees are partly visible to the public realm and neighbouring properties. The site is within the Great Wymondley Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Yew - Reduce height by 4m and reduce crown by 30%. T2: Sycamore - Reduce height by 4m and reduce crown by 30%.

T3, T4, T5: Horse Chestnut - Reduce height by 6m and reduce crown by 40%. (To previously reduced levels).

4.3 **Key Issues**

The key issue for consideration is the impact that the proposed works would have on the character, appearance and amenity of the Conservation Area.

4.3.1 The trees are partly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The Yew tree is growing close to the village hall and could potentially become a nuisance in time if left un managed. A 30% crown reduction will mitigate the potential nuisance and keep the tree at a suitable size for its location. Yew wood is highly durable and the tree should respond well to the pruning works without any long-term detrimental effects.

4.3.3 T2: Sycamore, T3-T4, 2x Horse Chestnut and T5: identified as Sycamore and so amended, are all mature trees that have undergone previous crown reductions with extensive regrowth now present. This regrowth is now of a size that a repeat of these works is an appropriate course of action, as large stems grown from pruning points can form weak attachments and be more prone to failure. The works will have short-term negative impact on the amenity of the trees, but pruning earlier minimises the size of dysfunctional wood resulting from delayed pruning operations and is accord with the previous management of these trees.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact upon the character, appearance and amenity of the Great Wymondley Conservation Area.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

4.5.1 None applicable

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

4.6.1 None applicable

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 No objection.

Signed  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 26 June 2026	