

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/02731/TCA	B3: 9 x Ash, 3 x Maple, 4 x Silver Birch - Fell to ground level. B7: Privet - Remove to ground level.	The Spirella Building Bridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4ET

Submitted Plan Nos

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 Full site history on case file.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 **LGCHF** – None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The site lies on the west side of Bridge Road and south of Icknield Way and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

- Area B3:
- 9 x Ash – Fell to ground level
- 3 x Maple – Fell to ground level
- 4 x Silver Birch – Fell to ground level
- B7 – Privet – Remove to ground level

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.

4.3.3 The trees are sited to either side of a car park within area B3 which is to the west of the main building. The application form states that the Ash trees are suffering from die-back, the Maple trees are dead/dying and the Silver Birch are suffering from poor crown conditions. Any impact to the street scene and subsequent amenity value of the area would be limited given the setback position of the when accessing the car park from Icknield Way.

4.3.4 Given the circumstances, it would not be appropriate to suggest further protection by way of a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 I am satisfied that the work 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 addition to this approval, and prior to the felling of the trees, you **MUST** make sure you have obtained the written consent of the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation (where applicable).
2. In an effort to combat climate change, North Hertfordshire Council advises that 10 native trees be planted within the grounds of the Spirella Building following removal of the Ash, Maple and Silver Birch trees. Please make sure you are familiar with the planting season which runs from 1st November until 31st March, this will give the trees the best chance of survival.

Signed  Sarah Kasparian	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 21 November 2025	