

## DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

| APPLICATION<br>REFERENCE | BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF<br>DEVELOPMENT        | APPLICATION SITE                                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26/00894/TCA             | Mature Beech - 25-33% reduction of canopy. | 14 Field Lane<br>Letchworth Garden City<br>Hertfordshire<br>SG6 3LE |

### **Submitted Plan Nos**

#### **1.0 Policies**

#### **2.0 Site History**

00/01363/TCA - No objection

12/00578/TCA - No objection

17/04148/TCA - No objection

23/02551/TCA - No objection

#### **3.0 Representations**

None received.

#### **4.0 Planning Considerations**

##### **4.1 Site and Surroundings**

Beech (applicant's plan) is located in the rear garden on the North boundary of the property close to the NE corner of the building. The tree is partly visible to the public realm. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

##### **4.2 Proposal**

Beech - Proposed 25-33% reduction of canopy.

#### 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 tree is partly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2   The Beech is a mature tree that has undergone various reductions in the past, with a reasonable amount of regrowth present. Beech do not form true heartwood and so internal wood can be readily colonised by decay when exposed to the atmosphere. The presence of dormant buds and the ability to produce adventitious buds is inconsistent within this species and therefore these pruning works should not exceed previous reduction points where barriers to decay are likely to already exist. The proposed work will have a negative impact on the amenity of the tree, but accords with previous similar works and as this tree has responded well to these former works, the impact is anticipated to be short-term.

#### 4.4           **Conclusion**

4.4.1   The proposed works do not exceed previous works and would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact upon the character, appearance and amenity of the Letchworth 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.

|                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Signed</p>  <p>Melissa Tyler</p> | <p>Development Management<br/>North Hertfordshire District Council<br/>Council Offices<br/>Gernon Road<br/>Letchworth<br/>Herts<br/>SG6 3JF</p> |
| <p>Determining Officer<br/><b>Date:</b> 8 May 2026</p>                                                               |                                                                                                                                                 |