

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/03208/TCA	T001, T002, T003, T005, T006: Lime - Cut back basal growth, deadwood and Ivy. T007: Copper Beech - Prune back on all sides approx 15%	The Green Opposite The Manse The Causeway Therfield Hertfordshire SG8 9PZ

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 Site History

12/02145/1TCA

3.0 Representations

None

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

T001 Lime is located at the N end of the green area bordered by The Causeway and Police Row; T002, T003, T005, T006 4x Lime are located on the green area bordered by The Causeway

and Pedlars Lane and T007 Beech is located on the triangular green area bordered by Church lane and The Causeway. The trees are within the Therfield Conservation Area. The trees are highly visible to the public realm and surrounding properties.

4.2 **Proposal**

T001, T002, T003, T005, T006: Lime - Cut back basal growth, deadwood and Ivy. T007: Copper Beech - Prune back on all sides approx 15%

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 highly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The proposed work to the 5x Lime of removing basal growth is a necessary maintenance operation required on these trees to prevent epicormic growth from becoming too large and obstructing access to the areas around the trees. It minimises the size of dysfunctional wood resulting from delayed pruning operations and is good arboricultural practice. The proposed works will have minimal effect on the amenity of these trees and will serve to improve their visual appearance. Some of this work had already been carried out prior to my visit and prior to the expiry of the 'section 211 notice'.

4.3.3 T007 Beech is an isolated tree with reasonable form that is partly asymmetrical. It has the potential to make a very good tree in a prominent position and it makes a significant contribution to the Conservation Area. The tree does potentially pose obstruction to taller vehicles and this risk will naturally increase as the tree grows. Beech do not take well to pruning and can die back if pruned heavily. However, a 15% reduction is not considered heavy and as the tree is young with good vigour, it should respond well to a light reduction that will not only mitigate any obstruction to vehicles, but may also serve to improve its shape.

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 Therfield 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: 30 January 2026	