

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/00341/TCA	T007: Ash - Crown reduction of 30% (4m) with thinning of any dead / redundant branches. T015: Beech - Crown reduction of 20% (2.5m) with the removal of dead or redundant stems / branches. T018: Beech - Crown reduction by 30% (6m) and balance.	Old Trees Letchworth Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3ND

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan Photos

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 Various applications for tree works, full details 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 east side of Letchworth Lane and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T007: Ash - Crown reduction of 30% (4m) with thinning of any dead/redundant branches.

T015: Beech - Crown reduction of 20% (2.5m) with the removal of dead or redundant stems / branches.

T018: Beech - Crown reduction by 30% (6m) and balance.

4.2.2 The application is supported by photographs of the trees.

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 with T007 to the north of the site and trees T015 and T018 to the east boundary with Arunwood an Early Learning Centre.

4.3.3 All three trees are mature specimens. Beech tree T018 shows evidence of being diseased with a weak and decayed union. The branches that are growing from the weak and decayed union are overhanging the animal enclosure of the early learning centre to the east and so it is necessary to undertake a 6 metre crown reduction to this tree to relieve some of the weight and achieve some structural stability. Works to trees T007 and T015 would be remedial. It is considered that the proposed works would not

result in any visual harm to their amenity value and would not result in unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area.

- 4.3.4 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the trees and therefore there is no evidence to suggest further protection is needed by way of a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 The proposed works to trees are considered acceptable.

5.0 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed work.

Informative/s:

1. In addition to this approval, and prior to undertaking works to the trees, you **MUST** make sure you have obtained the written consent of the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation (where applicable).

Signed  Paul Chaston Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 4 March 2025	