

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01112/TCA	T2059, T2060, T2061: Common Ash - Monolith to approx 6m to remove structural issues and retain habitat. T2062, T205: Common Ash - Monolith to approx 5m to remove structural issues and retain habitat. G107, G40, : Mixed Broadleaf - Raise group to 5.4m over highway. G406, G117: Mixed Broadleaf - Fell and remove all trees marked with blue paint raise group to 5.4m over highway G597: Laurel - Fell, remove and ecoplug.	Land Between Sollershott Hall And Spring Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 Site History

23/02750/TCA - G1 - Oak - Crown reduce by up to 2m to previous pruning points. Ash - Crown reduce by up to 4m to previous pruning points. Ash - Fell. Ash - Crown reduce 5-8m – No objection

25/00157/TCA - T1: Common Ash - Monolith. T10: Common Ash - Remove deadwood. T11: English Oak - Remove deadwood. T12: Cherry Plum - Sever ivy. T13: English Elm - Fell. T2: Common Ash - Sever ivy, crown reduce T3: Hornbeam - Remove deadwood. T4: Common Ash - Sever ivy. T5: Common Ash - Monolith. T6: Common Ash - Monolith. T7: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove over extended limb east towards road back to stem.

T8: Common Ash - Selected branch removal. Remove back to stem, lowest extended limb with cavities west 8m height.

T9: Common Ash - Reduce approx 2.5m height and laterals approx 1m to suitable growth points to reduce sail effect on union. – No objection

25/02175/TCA - T1: Ash - Fell to ground level. T2: Oak - Monolith to approx 6m. T3: Common Beech - Reduce height by approx 2m to suitable growth points, reduce southern limb by approx 1.5m to suitable growth points and leave over structure to provide approx 1.5m of clearance. Sever and strip ivy from base to 1.5m. T4: Ash - Remove deadwood– No objection

25/02468/TCA - T1: Oak - Monolith to 4m. T2: Common Ash - Crown reduction 2m. T3: Oak - Sever ivy from base to 1m. T4: Field Maple - Crown reduction 2m. T5: Common Ash - Sever ivy to 1m - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

The trees (applicant's plan) are located on the NE and SW sides of Spring Road; they are adjacent to and overhang the highway. The trees are visible to the public realm. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T2059, T2060, T2061: Common Ash - Monolith to approx 6m to remove structural issues and retain habitat. T2062, T205: Common Ash - Monolith to approx 5m to remove structural issues and retain habitat. G107, G40, : Mixed Broadleaf - Raise group to 5.4m over highway. G406, G117: Mixed Broadleaf - Fell and remove all trees marked with blue paint raise group to 5.4m over highway

G597: Laurel - Fell, remove and ecoplug.

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 submitted proposal of works are to address safety issues with regards trees that present a risk to users of the highway, due to their condition, indifferent form or colonisation by an aggressive pathogen and as the road sees high volume of vehicle parking at certain times of the day. Proposed works also include the removal of specimens of inferior form that are likely to cause future problems with the use of the highway and are to be removed as a proactive approach to reduce future maintenance costs and foreseeable issues. The Laurel hedge is not a native species and its removal is acceptable.

4.3.3 The works will not be detrimental to the general woody appearance of both areas either side of the road and trees that are partly retained will provide good habitat resource. The amenity to

the area is unlikely to be greatly affected as there is good tree cover in the vicinity and the removal of poor specimens should improve the standard of retained trees, enhancing their future growth.

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 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.

Signed  Thomas Howe	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 22 May 2026	

