

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/02700/TCA	T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6: Lime - Repollard. T7: Yew - Crown reduction by 0.5m. T8: Box - Crown Reduction of 0.5m. T9: 3x Yew - Prune back of Church Building by 0.5m. T10: Ash - Repollard.	United Reformed Church High Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5NP

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 Full history of previously granted pollarding on case file.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 Ashwell Parish Council – No objection

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The site occupies a prominent position in the centre of the village and is within the Ashwell Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:
 - T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6: Lime – Re-pollard.
 - T7: Yew - Crown reduction by 0.5m.
 - T8: Box - Crown Reduction of 0.5m.
 - T9: 3 x Yew - Prune back of Church Building by 0.5m.
 - T10: Ash – Re-pollard

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, and the application is accompanied by photographs of the trees.
- 4.3.3 All of the trees where the works are proposed are located to the north and east side of the church where the land fronts the High Street. All of the trees are mature and appear visually healthy. The location of the site means that the public amenity value of the trees is high. History of the site shows that various trees have undergone similar remedial works in order to maintain their longer-term management.

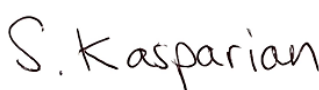
4.3.4 There would appear not to be any immediate threat to the trees and therefore there is no evidence to suggest further protection is needed by way of a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in harm to the amenity value of the trees. As such, I am satisfied that the works appear reasonable and justified and would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Ashwell Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed  Sarah Kasparian	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 18 November 2025	