

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Henry Thomas.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

26/00070/TPO

2x Horse Chestnut - Fell

16 Melbourn Street

Royston

Hertfordshire

SG8 7BZ

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

- 2.1 17/00618/1TPO - T1 Beech - Reduce the 2 limbs by 25%. T2 Yew - Clear main stem to 2m & crown lift 3m. T3 Holly - Remove basal and epicormic growth to 3m. T4 Acacia - Crown reduce by 30%. T5 Holly - Remove growth to 3m. T6 Horse Chestnut - Reduce by 25 - 30%. T7 Horse Chestnut - Reduce by 25-30%.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The site consists of a detached, grade II listed building, operating as a hotel on the north side of Melbourn Street within a residential part of Royston. The site is covered by the Royston Conservation Area and group TPO/026.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 2x Horse Chestnut – Fell

4.3 **Key Issues**

- 4.3.1 The issues associated with this proposal centre upon the appropriateness of the works given that the tree is protected by a Tree Protection Order.

- ☐ The trees are located in the rear garden with limited visibility from the public realm and visible to guests of the hotel.
- ☐ The trees appear to be in poor condition and on the decline. In my view, I have no objection to their removal due to their condition. The application form states that they seek to replant two native species, I have recommended a condition to secure this.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 In this instance, due to the above I find no objection to the works that have been proposed here.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

- 4.5.1 None.

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

- 4.6.1 None applicable.

5.0 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 That consent be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

1. The works shall be undertaken only by a competent and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor or tree surgeon as capable of carrying them out to an acceptable standard.

Reason: In order that the works are undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.

2. The works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998 - Recommendations for Tree Work and in a manner so as to ensure that the natural and aesthetic appearance of the trees are maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that the works are undertaken to an acceptable standard which will not harm the health of the tree(s).

3. The Horse Chestnut trees when felled shall be replaced with a Sorbus and Cherry tree (as stated on the application form) or a suitable native tree with a girth size of 12-14cm as agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The replacement tree shall be planted in the rear garden of the property within the first available planting season following the felling of the Horse Chestnut trees unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

In the event of the replacement trees failing to become established or dying within two years of planting, another tree of the same species and planting size shall be planted in its place in the first available planting season.

Reason: To safeguard and enhance the appearance of the Group Tree Preservation Order.

Signed  Ben Glover	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 9 March 2026	