

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
24/01373/TCA	Willow - Pollard. Crab Apple - Reduce by 30%	97 High Street Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8ED

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

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 None.

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

- 4.1.1 The site where the tree works are proposed comprises of an end of terrace, two-storey residential dwelling with driveway to the south and rear garden.
- 4.1.2 The property is a Grade II* listed building and is within the Barkway Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works: Willow - Pollard. Crab Apple - Reduce by 30%.

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 location plan, both of which are positioned in the rear garden of the property and alongside the party boundary with the neighbouring property to the south known as no.99 High Street, Barkway.
- 4.3.3 The application form reads that the Crab Apple requires pruning due to its position within the garden. The Willow tree is showing signs of failure but in an attempt to try and retain the tree, the option to prune is being pursued.
- 4.3.4 Both trees are mature and visible from the streetscene and therefore hold a degree of public amenity value as well as the private amenity value they offer between neighbouring properties. Notwithstanding this, the works to the trees is considered justified in order to maintain their longer-term management and their continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Barkway Conservation Area. 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 the trees would not harm their amenity value to a significant extent. As such, the work would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Barkway Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed	Development Management
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 Naomi Reynard	North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 1 July 2024	