

**PROPOSED:** Willow tree (TPO 7\_95) at 7 Enfield Gardens, Netherton.  
Thin crown by 30%, repollard at historic knuckle points and provide lightpole clearance of 2m or 45 degrees from head height to the top of the pole of if required to allow light spread to reach the public right of way.

**REFERRED BY:** Head of Planning, Transportation & Engineering.

**REASON:** Applicant is Peterborough City Councillor Mr C. Ash.

**CASE OFFICER:** John Wilcockson

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## 1 SUMMARY/OUTLINE OF THE MAIN ISSUES

An application has been received to carry out works to a Willow tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 7 of 1995. These works are to prevent crown failure and to provide clearances over the street light that is located next to the tree.  
The application has been referred to the Planning Committee as the applicant is Councillor Ash.

No objections or comments have been received.

The Head of Planning, Transportation & Engineering recommends that CONSENT is granted

## 3 POLICY

Decisions must be taken in accordance with the Policy and Legislation below.

The main considerations are:

- **Are the works deemed appropriate in line with Arboricultural best practice?**
- **Will the works be detrimental to the visual amenity value of the tree?**

Peterborough Trees & Woodlands Strategy 2012.

*PP 1.2: No objection or consent for works will be provided if the Council is satisfied that:*

- *The work is necessary for the continued retention of the tree.*
- *The work is consistent with good arboricultural practice.*

Town and Country Planning Act 1990(Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012.

## 4 DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The tree is a mature Weeping Willow growing in the western corner of the rear garden of the applicant's property. The tree has been pollarded historically and is approximately 20m high and has a crown spread in excess of 7m. The lower crown is less than 2m from ground level in places and is overhanging the boundary fence and the public right of way that links Wilton Close through to Meynell Walk. There is a PCC street light that is also partially obscured, the clearance of this vegetation in proximity to the light was requested by the Street Lighting Team prior to the Case Officer's initial inspection.

## **5 CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS**

### **INTERNAL**

None

### **EXTERNAL**

None

### **NEIGHBOURS**

None

### **COUNCILLORS**

No comments received

## **6 REASONING**

The works were prescribed to the applicant by the Landscape Officer in an effort to avoid limb failure and to provide clearances to the street light.

## **7 CONCLUSIONS**

It is the opinion of the Case Officer that the works are deemed appropriate the following reasons:-

- At present the light is partially obscured by the crown of the tree, this work is in fact an exemption under the TPO regulations.
- The visual amenity value of the tree will be reduced in the short term, but within 2 growing seasons, the tree will have formed a new crown.
- Once a tree has been pollarded, there is a need to manage as such thereafter, if this is not done, failure can occur once the tree develops a full crown.  
Essentially, with the creation of a new pollard, the tree is responding to an “attack” whereby it puts out a proliferation of new re-growth. This new growth is weakly attached and if the tree is not re-pollarded, excessive end weight can cause the failure of limbs.

## **8 RECOMMENDATION**

The Head of Planning, Transport & Engineering recommends that **CONSENT** is granted.

Copy to Councillors Arculus N, Dalton MJ, Maqbool Y