P & EP Committee: 8th April 2014 ITEM NO 5.2

PROPOSED: Section 211 Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in Longthorpe

Conservation area, at 333 Thorpe Rd, Peterborough

REFERRED BY: Director of Growth & Regeneration.

REASON: The applicant is Cllr Cereste.

CASE OFFICER: John Wilcockson TELEPHONE: 01733 453465

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1 SUMMARY/OUTLINE OF THE MAIN ISSUES

A Section 211 Notice has been submitted by Cllr Cereste, a notification to carry out tree work at 333 Thorpe Rd, Peterborough. The notification was registered within the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on 7th March 2014.

The proposed works are :-

- 1. Reduce 1 No. Lilac so it is of a similar height to the fence
- 2. Remove the two lowest limbs on 1 No. Acacia
- 3. Lateral reduction by 2m of lowest branches of 1 No. Acer.

The main considerations are:

- Are the proposals in line with sound Arboricultural practice, reasonable and justified having regard to any representations received?
- Are the trees worthy of inclusion into a TPO in terms of public visual amenity value, condition and health?

Director of Growth & Regeneration recommends that the works are **PERMITTED** and no objection is made against the notice .

2 DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The property is located within Longthorpe Conservation Area. The Lilac and Acer are in the front garden, the Acacia is to the rear/west against boundary with neighbouring property. All 3 trees are largely screened by surrounding trees and properties.

3 CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

EXTERNAL

None received

NEIGHBOURS

None received

COUNCILLORS

None received.

4 REASONING

Under a section 211 anyone proposing to cut down or carry out work on a tree in a Conservation Area is required to give the LPA six weeks' prior notice. The purpose of this requirement is to give the LPA an

opportunity to consider whether the works are appropriate and if not consider is a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) should be made in respect to the tree.

The Lilac is in poor condition and is starting to damage the boundary fence line, it is not considered worthy of a TPO due to its structural condition and low visual amenity value.

The Acer is also in poor structural condition, the main trunk curves by 90 degrees at just above ground level and then ascends thereafter, the proposed works are to improve the condition of the lawn which is largely moss. As the tree is in poor structural condition and as it offers very low visual amenity value, the works are acceptable and the tree is not worthy of a TPO.

The works to the Acacia are considered minor and will not compromise the tree's health nor visual amenity value.

5 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed works are acceptable.

6 RECOMMENDATION

The Head of Planning, Transport & Engineering recommends that the worked are permitted and no objection is made against the notice.