

Item No. 02

Planning and EP Committee 20 October 2020

Application Ref: 20/01005/TRE

Proposal: TPO 07/1995 (95/00007/TPO) T.38 Willow - Re-pollard back to the previous pollarding points to avoid limb failure also to provide clearance to a street light and over the public highway.

Site: 7 Enfield Gardens, Netherton, Peterborough, PE3 9RP

Applicant: Cllr Ash

Reason: **The applicant is a Ward Councillor**

Site visit: 10.08.2020

Case officer: Mr Stephen Chesney-Beales

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Recommendation: **GRANT** subject to relevant conditions

1 Description of the site and surroundings and Summary of the proposal

Site Description

An application has been received to carry out works to a Weeping Willow tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 7 of 1995. The mature Weeping Willow is growing in the eastern 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 and the road. There is a PCC street light that is also partially obscured.

Proposal

The proposal is to re-pollard the tree back to the previous pollarding points. These works are to prevent crown failure and to provide clearances to the street light and highway. These cyclical works were previously approved in application reference 12/01284/TRE P&EP Cttee, Item No.2, 09.10.2012.

The application has been referred to the Planning Committee as the applicant is Councillor Ash.

2 Planning History

Reference	Proposal	Decision	Date
12/01284/TRE	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 PROW on Willow tree - TPO 07/1995	Permitted	11/10/2012

3 Planning Policy

Decisions must be taken in accordance with the development plan policies below, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012

Peterborough Trees & Woodlands Strategy 2018

4 Consultations/Representations

No comments received

Local Residents/Interested Parties

Initial consultations: 0

Total number of responses: 0

Total number of objections: 0

Total number in support: 0

5 Assessment of the planning issues

The main considerations are:

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

- a) Once a tree has been pollarded, there is a need to manage as such thereafter. The reason being that once pollarded the proliferation of new growth is weakly attached to tree and more prone to failure. It is thus considered sound arboricultural management to re-pollard such trees on cyclical basis. Failure to re-pollard the tree would result in a Health and Safety liability to the owner.
- b) The visual amenity value of the tree will be reduced in the short term, but within two growing seasons, the tree will have formed a new crown.

6 Conclusions

Subject to the imposition of the attached conditions, the proposal is acceptable having been assessed in the light of all material considerations, including weighing against relevant policies of the Peterborough Tree and Woodland Strategy and guidance within the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012

7 Recommendation

The Executive Director of Place and Economy recommends that this Notice of Works to Tree(s) protected by a Tree Preservation Order is **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

- C 1 The above tree work, to which this permission relates, must be completed no later than the expiration of two years beginning with the date of this decision notice.

Reason: The Local Planning Authority would wish to review the decision and the proposal after two years from the date of this consent so that it may take into account the growth pattern and condition of the tree(s) at that time.

- C 2 All works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998:2010, Recommendations for Tree Works.

Reason: In the interests of good arboricultural practice and the visual amenity of the Weeping Willow, in accordance with the Peterborough Tree and Woodland Strategy 2018-2028.

Copies to Ward Councillors Ed Murphy, Gul Nawaz & Lucinda Robinson

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