

PLANNING COMMITTEE

25th November 2020

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER Borough of Redditch TPO (175) 2020 Land off Droitwich Road, Feckenham.

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Brandon Clayton
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Head of Planning and Environmental Services
Ward(s) Affected	Feckenham Ward
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to consider the confirmation without modification of Borough of Redditch Tree Preservation Order 175 (2020) relating to Tree/s on land off the Droitwich Road, Feckenham (NGR 400659-261317).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the provisional Borough of Redditch Tree Preservation Order 175 (2020) relating to trees on land off the Droitwich Road, Feckenham (NGR 400659-261317 is confirmed without modification as in the provisional order as raised and shown in appendix (1).

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications relating to the confirmation of the TPO.

Legal Implications

- 3.3 Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 2012 covers this procedure.

Service / Operational Implications

Background:

- 3.4 The provisional order was raised on the 10th July 2020 in reaction to planning application reference number 20/00599/FUL which proposed to build two number dwellings on the site and in view of the pressure of management this proposal may bring to bear on the trees within the order.

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- 3.5** The following one objection has been received in respect of the provisional TPO having been raised:

Letter from Mr Mark Donald, director of H2Land the company promoting the site for development under application 20/00599/FUL, see appendix 2.

The letter highlights that Mr Donald has no objection to the protection of the Walnut tree T1 of the order.

However, that he does object to the inclusion of G1 on the basis that the Hazel stools are near collapse due to their size and lack of past and recent management. It is clear that the Hazel stools have not been managed for a considerable period of time, however they are not showing any evidence of collapse or are they of a size that this would be expected for some period of time to come. They are of a considerable age and form a valuable boundary feature providing screening of the site and visual amenity value to the neighbouring property. They are also visible from the Droitwich Road and therefore offer a good degree of public visual amenity value. Coppice management is the main recognised method of management on Hazel stools, the practice of fully coppicing all stems to ground level and allowing the stool to regenerate being a woodland practice to allow the harvest of material for hedge laying. However the regeneration and longevity of such stools can also be managed by selective thinning of a percentage of the largest stems from the stool which I would argue is the most appropriate style of management in this situation and would allow the rebalancing of the stools on the Western side.

Therefore I feel that the trees within G1 should remain within the order.

- 3.6** Policy Implications- None
HR Implications- None
Council Objective 4- Environment, Priority C04 Planning
- 3.7** Climate Change / Carbon/ Biodiversity- The Proposal in relation to confirming the TPO can only be seen as a positive impact on the environment.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.8** The customers have been provided with the relevant notification and the responses received are attached in the appendices. The customers will receive notification by post of the decision of the committee.
- 3.9** Equalities and Diversity implications- None

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4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the details included in this report.

5. APPENDICES

List Appendices.

Appendix (1) Plan & Schedule of Provisional Order

Appendix (2) Letter of Objection from Mr Mark Donald director of H2Land

Appendix (3) Photographs of the trees to be protected

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

7. KEY

TPO - Tree Preservation Order

7.1 Conclusion and recommendations:

The trees within the order provide suitable level of public amenity value to members of the public using either the Droitwich Road and the public footpath running through the land attached to Lavender Place and rear of 17 Droitwich Road. They also add greatly to the character of the area.

Therefore, I would recommend to the committee that the order is confirmed and made permanent without modification as shown in appendix (1) of this report.

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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