

Report to Planning Committee

Location: Park House, Mile End Road, Colwick

Proposal: Protection of a group of 10 trees by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

Case Officer: Lewis Widdowson

1.0 Site Description

- 1.1 The site is situated within the existing built up area of Colwick on the north side of Mile End Road. Park House is set back from the adjacent highway approx. 35 metres with a grassed area to the front which incorporates a number of trees.
- 1.2 The site is allocated as Protected Employment Land within the Local Planning Document (LPD).
- 1.3 The land uses surrounding the site are predominantly residential to the west and commercial/industrial to the east.
- 1.4 Ten of the trees on the site are mature and, due to their size and prominence, are considered to have significant amenity value within the local street scene.

2.0 Relevant History

- 2.1 The Forestry Officer inspected the trees on the 10th October 2018. An evaluation of the trees was carried out to determine whether or not the trees would be worthy of protection by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

3.0 Proposed Action

- 3.1 Authorisation is sought to make a provisional TPO in relation to a group of 10 trees. These comprise of:
 - T1 London Plane,
 - T2 Sycamore,
 - T3 London Plane,
 - T4 Copper Beech,
 - T5 Norway Maple Tree,
 - T6 Birch,
 - and, G1 which consists of 4 Birch trees.

4.0 Consultations

- 4.1 Should authorisation be granted to make the Order, a statutory consultation will be undertaken, in accordance with Regulation 5, Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012, giving all persons with an interest in the land affected by the order 28 days to submit objections or representations to Gedling Borough Council.
- 4.2 The Council must then, within six months of making the Order, consider objections and representations and decide whether to confirm the Order, with or without modifications.

5.0 Planning Considerations

- 5.1 The site has been inspected by the Forestry Officer and an evaluation of the trees to assess the suitability of a TPO has been undertaken using the Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) which is a guide to assist in the decision-making of local authorities. The process includes a systematic assessment of a number of different attributes, ranking them from one to five, and an assessment of any immediate threat.
- 5.2 Part 1 of a TEMPO assessment assesses the attributes below. The higher the attribute scores the more weight that is given to the protection of the trees.
- I. Condition and suitability for TPO: **5/5**
 - II. Retention span (in years) & suitability for TPO: **5/5**
 - III. Relative public visibility & suitability for TPO: **4/5**
 - IV. Other factors: **2/5**
- 5.3 Part 2 of the assessment measures the likely threat of any immediate danger to the trees with a higher score indicating a more imminent danger. In this instance it was judged that there was a perceived threat to the trees and a score of **2/5** was deemed appropriate.
- 5.4 In order for a TPO to be recommended a cumulative score of 12 or more is required. Should a TEMPO assessment generate a score greater than 16 it is considered that a TPO is definitely merited. In this instance the above group of trees scored a cumulative total of **18/25**.
- 5.5 In my opinion, the identified trees are located in a prominent location within the street-scene and provides a high level of visual amenity to the locality. For these reasons it is considered expedient in the interests of the amenity of the area to protect the group of trees by a TPO pursuant to section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 5.6 **Recommendation: – That the Service Manager, Development Services, be authorised to make a Tree Preservation Order in respect of the identified trees situated at Park House, Mile End Road.**