

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL – DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
DELEGATED REPORT

APPLICATION No:	N6/2010/0023/TC
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NOTATION:

The site lies within Conservation Area as designated in the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan 2005.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE: 12 Fordwich Road, Welwyn Garden City

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: Reduce hawthorn hedge in height and layer lower level, reduce whitebeam tree by 30% plus and prune tow Silver birch trees and one cherry tree by 30%

PLANNING HISTORY:

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES:

National Policy

PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment

East of England Plan 2008

ENV2: :Landscape Character

Hertfordshire Structure Plan Review 1991 – 2011:

None

Welwyn Hatfield District Plan 2005:

GBSP1: Definition of Green Belt

GBSP2: Towns and specified settlements

D8 - Landscaping

RA10 – Landscape Character Area and Region

Policy GBSP2 – Towns and Specified Settlements

CONSULTATIONS: The application was advertised by means of neighbour notification and no representations were received.

TOWN/PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS: None received

REPRESENTATIONS

The application was advertised by means of neighbour notification and no representations were received.

DISCUSSION:

Paragraph 4.40 of PPG15 states “when considering whether to extend protection to trees in conservation areas, local planning authorities should always take into account the visual, historic and amenity contribution of trees.”

The trees and hedges in question are located in the front communal area of 6,8,10 and 12 Fordwich Road.

The hedge is adjacent to 12 Fordwich Road. It has not be managed for some time and has become tall and leggy. In addition there is a significant amount of ivy growing amongst it. The applicant wishes to reduce the hedge and layer it. This work should form a more formal hedge whilst retaining some cover. This work is considered appropriate as it will enhance the look of the hedge.

The Whitebeam is mature tree growing outside no. 10. This tree appears in good health with normal vigour. The applicant wishes to reduce the crown of this tree by 30% as it is beginning to encroach upon the buildings. Because of the encroachment this work is considered appropriate.

The two birch trees are adjacent to the garages. Both trees appear to be in good health with normal vigour, however their form and structure are poor. The applicant wishes to reduce both trees by 30%. Ordinarily reducing this species of tree by this amount would not be recommend, however due to their poor form it would be appropriate in this instance.

The cherry is also located adjacent to garages. It appears to be in good health with normal vigour. The crown of the tree is spreading and overhangs garages. The applicant wishes to reduce the crown of the tree by 30%. Due to the spread and overhang of the crown this work is considered appropriate.

CONCLUSION: The pruning works applied for are considered appropriate and in line with good arboricultural practise. The works will maintain and enhance the visual amenity in this area.

RECOMMENDATION: The proposal is appropriate. No objection

INFORMATIVES:

DRAWING NUMBERS: Plan provided with application.

Signature of author..... Date.....