

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - PLANNING, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND GOVERNANCE**

**DELEGATED APPLICATION**

**Application No:** 6/2017/1591/TPO  
**Location:** Hill House Park Street Hatfield AL9 5AZ  
**Proposal:** Fell 7 x Crack Willow trees (G1+G3), 4 x Ash trees (G2), 10 x Prunus and Blackthorn trees (G4+G5) to ground level and remove lowest limb on Northern side of Sycamore tree (T2) - Conservation Area  
**Officer:** Miss M Hill  
**Recommendation:** Not Determined

<b>Context</b>	
<b>Relevant planning history</b>	<p>Planning</p> <p>Application Number: S6/2009/1209/TC      Decision: Granted      Decision Date: 10 August 2009</p> <p>Proposal: Area 1 (To the West and North of the drive) Crown reduce and shape 3 Plum trees and lighten crown on 1 Walnut tree. Remove 25 Ash and Sycamore sapling and young trees and remove 2 Lime, 1 Poplar and 1 Beech 3 metre stump. Area 2 (To the north of Hill House) Reduce overgrown hedge to 1.2 metres, re-pollard 1 Lime tree and lift crown in 1 Norway Spruce. Remove 2 Red Cedar, 2 Cherry trees and 1 Horse Chestnut. Area 3 (To the East and South of Hill House) Prune to shape 4 Yew trees, pollard 1 Yew tree and prune and shape a group of large dense shrubs and open up path. Remove 1 Willow, 3 Sycamore, 1 Elder and 1 Cherry tree.</p>
<b>Consultations</b>	
<p>Consultations do not apply to Trees within Conservation Area applications in accordance with the Tree Regulation Order and therefore any response <b>cannot</b> be considered.</p>	
<b>Main Issues</b>	
<b>Whether the tree(s) merit a Tree Preservation Order</b>	<p>An assessment is required of the amenity value of the tree(s) and whether it/they help to preserve the character or appearance of the conservation area.</p> <p>The assessment considers the condition of the tree, its retention span, relative public visibility and other factors – such as, but not limited to, whether it is part of a group, has historical importance and, has good form.</p> <p>T2, a mature sycamore, stands to the south east of the house, in a less used area of the garden, on the bank. It is a prominent tree due to the topography and its size. The proposed works, to remove the lowest limb on the northern side is reasonable given the position of the tree and layout of the site.</p> <p>G1 to G3 is an area of scrubby self-sets. Even though they are ‘hidden away’ within the garden, they are more prominent from Park Close as they stand atop a retaining wall. The trees have poor form or are overextended etc. These</p>

	trees do not have sufficient value to protect with a TPO. The proposed works are reasonable management for this particular location.
<b>Conclusion</b>	
From the above considerations, it is concluded that the trees do not have sufficient amenity to protect with a Tree Preservation Order.	

**Conditions:**

DRAWING NUMBERS

1. The development/works shall not be started and completed other than in accordance with the approved plans and details:

<b>Plan Number</b>	<b>Revision Number</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Received Date</b>
		Tree Location Plan	20 July 2017

REASON: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans and details.

**Determined By:**

Mrs L Hughes  
5 September 2017