

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PLANNING)**

DELEGATED APPLICATION

Application No: 6/2023/0330/TPO
Location: Hertfordshire Constabulary Central Area Headquarters And Hatfield Police Station Comet Way Hatfield AL10 9SJ
Proposal: T9-T10 Willow x 2. Re pollard back to historic points.
 Trees covered by TPO 701 (2017)
Officer: Ms M Hill

Recommendation: Granted

6/2023/0330/TPO

Context	
Site and Application description	Hertfordshire Constabulary Central Area Headquarters And Hatfield Police Station Comet Way Hatfield AL10 9SJ T9-T10 Willow x 2. Re pollard back to historic points. Trees covered by TPO 701 (2017).
Relevant history	Application Number: S6/2013/2435/TP Decision: Refused Decision Date: 09 January 2014 Proposal: Remove deadwood from Walnut T1 and reduce crown height and spread of Copper Beech T2 by 15% covered by TPO362 Application Number: 6/2017/0512/TPO Decision: Granted Decision Date: 13 June 2017 Proposal: T1 beech, crown lift by up to 3m over car parking and blend with existing crown covered by TPO 362 (2006) + Application Number: 6/2019/0346/TPO Decision: Granted Decision Date: 22 March 2019 Proposal: Reduce limb of 1 x Tree of Heaven tree (T1) and reduce remaining crown by 30% - covered by TPO 701 (2017)
Main Issues	
Appropriateness of the works in relation to the tree(s)	T10 is a weeping willow standing to the north of the water feature. This tree is managed as a high pollard and has about 4m long regrowth. Overall, the tree appears to be reasonable health, vitality and structural condition. The tree is bifurcated at 4m which is not usual for this species. The proposed tree works are reasonable. T9 is a weeping willow standing south of the water feature. It has been previously managed as a high pollard and has an estimated 4m of regrowth. There is a primary branch on the north side of the tree at 3m with visible decay and a woodpecker hole under it. There are primary branches with poor

	historical pruning wounds and rubbing. There is a small area of bark on the east side of the stem between 10cm and 1.3m which has been lost. A large primary surface root has been skimmed. Overall, the tree is in reasonable health and vitality. The structural condition is fair with the large, decayed branch as is but will be reasonable once this issue is managed. The proposed tree works are reasonable.
Conclusion	
The proposed works are reasonable given the trees previous management and the application should be approved.	

Conditions:

1. The works hereby approved shall be undertaken in accordance with the British Standard 3998:2010 (Tree Work) and by an appropriately qualified person.

REASON: To ensure that any works undertaken comply with arboricultural best practice.

2. The works hereby permitted must only be carried out during winter (November to February, inclusive) or high summer (July to August inclusive) and at no other time.

REASON: To maintain the character and appearance of the area in accordance with Policies GBSP2, D1, D2, D8 and R17 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan 2005.

DRAWING NUMBERS

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

Plan Number	Revision Number	Details	Received Date
		Tree sketch	10 February 2023

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

Informatives:

1. Branches that grow after pollarding should normally be cut back at their bases in order to encourage the formation of a knuckle after a number of cycles. Unless the intention to remove the knuckle is clearly stated in the tree works proposal it is expected that the knuckle will not be removed. Knuckles should only be removed in exceptional circumstances, e.g. to prevent catastrophic failure.

Determined By:

Mr Oliver Waring
22 March 2023