

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8/3(a)

Parish:	Walpole	
Purpose of report:	TO CONSIDER WHETHER TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2/TPO/00557 SHOULD BE CONFIRMED, MODIFIED OR NOT CONFIRMED IN THE LIGHT OF OBJECTIONS	
Location:	Red Gables Wisbech Road Walpole St Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7LH	
Site owner/occupier:	Mr Stephen C Wilson & Mrs Angela B L Wilson	
Case No:	2/TPO/00557	
Grid Ref:	550253 317542	Date of service of Order: 19 January 2017

RECOMMENDATION - CONFIRM ORDER WITHOUT MODIFICATION

THE SITE

The two Willows (G1) line the driveway for Red Gables, Wisbech Road, Walpole St Andrew. Both trees are clearly visible from the Church and contribute to the overall verdant nature of the landscape near the church. It is worth mentioning that the other trees in this order (T1, G2 & G3) have not been objected to.

LDF CORE STRATEGY POLICIES

C12 - Environmental Assets

REASON FOR MAKING THE TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Central Government advice states that all Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) should be regularly reviewed to try and remove older, area type orders. Following a site visit it was felt that these trees still contribute greatly to the surrounding landscape.

OUTLINE OF OBJECTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

One letter of objection was received from a neighbour living in a property known as Zanncolm, Wisbech Road, Walpole St Andrew following receipt of the Tree Preservation Order (TPO); the reasons for the objection are as follows:

1. The trees have never been maintained and a lot of debris falls into the driveway, occasionally larger branches fall off causing a danger.
2. These two Willow have been cited by my insurance company for causing damage to the property (Zanncolm).

Two letters of support have been received following the receipt of the TPO; one from the tree owner and one from a neighbouring property; both state that the trees enhance the surrounding landscape, provide a haven for the wildlife and help screen the property from the road, The tree owner also states that the trees were one of the reasons for purchasing Red Gables.

RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

1. A lack of tree maintenance does not exclude trees from formal protection and it has to be expected, when living in close proximity to mature trees, that debris, leaves, branches, seeds etc., will fall from the tree/s as part of their natural processes. The serving of a TPO does not discount any reasonable arboricultural works.
2. No evidence for this has been supplied so makes it difficult to comment further.

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, both the Willow in G1 contribute greatly to the character and appearance of the wider landscape and it is considered that the reasons put forward by the objector are of insufficient weight to prevent the confirmation of the TPO, and it is therefore recommended that the order is confirmed.

Background Papers

TPO file reference 2/TPO/00557

Appendix 1: copy of scoring assessment.

RECOMMENDATION: CONFIRM ORDER WITHOUT MODIFICATION

Contact Officer: Mr R. Fisher, Arboricultural Officer 01553 616386