

## AGENDA ITEM NO: 8/4(a)

Parish:	Snettisham	
Purpose of report:	TO CONSIDER WHETHER TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2/TPO/00616 SHOULD BE CONFIRMED, MODIFIED OR NOT CONFIRMED IN THE LIGHT OF OBJECTIONS	
Location:	Within the garden of: 15 Fern Hill, Dersingham, King's Lynn, PE31 6HT	
Case No:	2/TPO/00616	
Grid Ref:	569011 330734	Date of service of Order: 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2021

### RECOMMENDATION - CONFIRM ORDER WITHOUT MODIFICATION

#### THE SITE

The semi-mature Black Mulberry (T1) is situated in the garden of 15 Fern Hill, Dersingham, adjacent to the driveway of number 17 Fern Hill, Dersingham. This tree can be seen from Fern Hill and contributes greatly, both to the locale and the local wildlife.

#### LDF CORE STRATEGY POLICIES

C12 - Environmental Assets

#### REASON FOR MAKING THE TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Following a phone call from a concerned member of the public, regarding possible heavy pruning of the tree, a site visit was carried out and it was found that the tree has a high amenity value, not only for the immediate residents of Fern Hill, but the wider environment in general.

#### OUTLINE OF OBJECTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

**ONE** letter of **OBJECTION** has been received from the neighbouring property, 17 Fern Hill, Dersingham:

1. The issue of amenity; the tree is situated in a private garden with no public access and '*I imagine that this is the reason that trees in private gardens are rarely the subject of a TPO*'
2. The Black Mulberry is not commonly grown but it is not a rare tree and is freely available to buy from garden centres/nurseries, essentially grown as a fruiting tree rather than an ornamental tree.
3. The branches overhang the driveway/parking area for number 17, branches and fruits fall on driveway and car, causing a slip hazard and staining to the driveway.
4. Judicious pruning of the tree will enhance the tree and eliminate any nuisance caused.

5. A large, secondary branch has been allowed to grow at an angle and is supported by a substantial cable.

## **RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

1. The Black Mulberry is visible from Fern Hill and the private roadway running past 17 Fern Hill. The majority of TPOs are served on privately owned trees.
2. TPOs can be applied on any species of tree, regardless of fruiting or ornamental habits.
3. All works to trees covered by a TPO are considered; formative pruning works to enable sensible crown reduction and management are likely to be considered favourably.
4. Please see point 3 above.
5. Cable bracing limbs is a recognised and often used tool in arboriculture.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

In conclusion, this tree contributes greatly to the character and appearance of the street scene, both now, and into the future. As the tree matures, it will become an even greater presence and will provide an ongoing resource to the local wildlife, it is considered that the reasons put forward by the objector are of insufficient weight to overcome the harm to the character and appearance of the locale that would occur should this tree is removed. It is therefore recommended that the order is confirmed.

## **RECOMMENDATION: CONFIRM ORDER WITHOUT MODIFICATION**

### **Background Papers**

TPO file reference: 2/TPO/00616

Appendix 1: Copy of scoring assessment

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