

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31 January 2012 in the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 5.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors MacKay (Chairman), Mrs Blacklock, Brookes and Weed.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

12. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2011 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

13. TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 448 – WARWICKSHIRE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, WOODCOTE LANE, LEEK WOOTTON, WARWICK

The Sub-Committee considered a report about a provisional Tree Preservation Order (TPO) made on 8 August 2011 in respect of all the trees surrounding Woodcote, a Grade II Listed Building which was currently the headquarters of Warwickshire Police.

An objection had been received from the owner of Broome House as he did not agree to the inclusion of his property within the area of the Order and had requested that the Order be modified to exclude Broome House.

A site visit had been undertaken prior to the meeting to assist the Sub-Committee in reaching its decision.

It was the case officer's opinion that the grounds of Broome House were connected both visually and historically with Woodcote and continued to form a part of the landscape setting. The Order was intended to protect all areas that formed part of the setting of Woodcote, irrespective of current ownership and the issues raised by way of objection did not outweigh the public benefit afforded by the presence of the trees. The officers therefore felt that it was appropriate to include Broome House within the Order.

The case officer circulated emails from the owner of Broome House to the Sub-Committee members.

The Sub-Committee noted that the objector had not given particular reasons why his land should be excluded from the Order; indeed his objections gave reasons to include it within the Order, such as trees screening a fairly modern building from a listed building. The report advised that the trees were significant old trees which should be retained as they added character to the area and formed part of the landscape setting. If the trees were removed, the landscape would be flat and featureless and it was noted that there was a wide range of beautiful trees including limes and chestnuts.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER SUB COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

Having considered the officer's report, presentation and addendum, and having visited the site, Members agreed that the Order should be confirmed unmodified, in accordance with the recommendation in the report.

RESOLVED that Tree Preservation Order 488 be CONFIRMED unmodified.

(The meeting ended at 5.20 pm)