

Planning Committee: 10 October 2017

Item Number: 12

Reference No: TPO 520

Town/Parish Council: Barford
Case Officer: Rajinder Lalli

Registration Date: N/A
Expiry Date: N/A

4 & 5a Carter Drive, Barford, CV35 8ET
Confirmation of Provisional Tree Preservation Order relating to a group of 5 Silver Birch Trees

This Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is being presented to Committee because objections have been received to it being confirmed

RECOMMENDATION

Planning Committee is recommended to authorise officers to confirm TPO 520 without modification.

BACKGROUND

A notification was received to fell three Silver Birch Trees to the front of 4 Carter Drive on the 14th June 2017. The reason given by the tree surgeon, for felling was that a planning application has been approved which shows that the trees will be removed. This was not, in fact the case, as the retention of the trees had been secured as part of the consideration of the planning application and was reflected in the approved plans. During the assessment of the trees in question a further 2 silver birches were identified which were considered to merit protection through the making of a TPO.

OBJECTIONS

The Council have received 1 letter of objection to the making of the Order. In summary the objections are:-

1. The Council allowed the felling of a Leylandi Cypress and Oak in Carter Drive (W/16/2190/TCA)
2. After the felling of three Silver Birches the two that remain are foremost trees that border the Highway so would continue to soften the landscape.
3. The trees are only visible by immediate neighbours and the property owner from the Highway
4. Carter Drive is not a through road so there is limited public amenity.
5. Do not consider the trees have significant Amenity

KEY ISSUES

The key issues to be addressed in deciding whether or not to confirm the Tree Preservation Order are whether the trees are of sufficient amenity importance to justify a TPO, and whether the public benefit afforded by the trees outweighs any private inconvenience experienced by individuals because of the trees.

ASSESSMENT

The Silver Birch Trees are located to the front of 4 & 5a Carter Drive.

The trees are considered to be of significant amenity value within the surrounding area meriting the confirmation of this Tree Preservation Order.

In response to the objections raised:-

The Council did allow the felling of a Leylandi Cypress as it is not generally considered that this species merits protection. The Oak tree was diseased and for that reason not considered to merit protection.

The group of five Silver Birches the subject of this Order are considered to form a cohesive group that adds to the character of the area therefore the loss of any of them without sufficient justification is not considered to be appropriate.

Whilst Carter Road is a no through road which ends at 8 Carter Drive, the trees nevertheless remain of significant amenity value within the surrounding area.

The effect of the TPO is to bring future work to the trees under the Council's control. It will not prevent appropriate work to be carried out to maintain the group of Trees.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION

It is not considered the issues raised in objection to the TPO are sufficient to outweigh the significant amenity contribution which the trees make to their surrounding area and therefore it is expedient to confirm this TPO.