

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

Councillor Mark Inkster

6 **Community Involvement**

This application was publicised in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice for Publicity of Planning Applications approved at minute 207/6/92 (as amended), as a result of which the following publicity was undertaken:

Number of neighbour notification letters sent: 11

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 0

Comment	Officer Comment

7 **Planning Considerations**

7.1 Having regard to the relevant policies of the development plan it is considered that the main issues arising from this application are:

- Whether the degree of pruning works requested would undermine the amenity value of these trees and whether this could also be harmful to their ongoing health and vitality.

7.2 My inspection related specifically to assessing the proposed works rather than generally inspecting the tree's health and condition in any great detail. I visually inspected the tree from ground level and the following report deals with the relevant issues that have been raised on site, in the application form and from my site observations.

7.3 This application to undertake work to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order relates to the proposed felling of one White Poplar in the rear garden of the property.

The applicant wishes to fell the tree because of its size in relation to the adjacent properties and the direct damage it is causing to footpaths. Excessive sucker growth is also an issue.

The Arboricultural Officer comments that the tree is a mature specimen which has been managed by pruning for a number of years to try and maintain the tree in its location. The is a fast growing, vigorous species and is considered to be wholly inappropriate for a small residential garden.

It is clear that the roots are affecting the footpaths and possibly the fence and gate. All of which has been replaced only for the same damage to occur.

No objections to the application have been received.

8 **Conclusion**

Given the size and species of tree and the continued management necessary to try and maintain it, it has now reached a time where retention of the tree is not appropriate or reasonable, particularly given the damage the roots are causing.

A replacement tree will be planted at the front of the property.

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/19/00736 subject to the following conditions

- 1 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 5 September 2020.

Reason: To control the timing of the works

- 2 In the first planting season following the date of felling; 1 replacement tree is planted. The tree should be a minimum 1.5 metres tall at the time of planting and should comply with BS3936:Part 1:1992. It should be planted on the communal ground at the front of the property.

The tree species should be *liquidambar styraciflua* or such other size, species, location or period of time as may be agreed in writing with the Council.

If within a period of three years any tree planted as a replacement is cut down, felled, uprooted, removed, or die, or becomes in the opinion of the Council seriously damaged or defective:

- a) the Council shall be notified as soon as is reasonably practicable; and
- b) another tree of the same species and size shall be planted in the same location at a time agreed in writing with the Council unless the Council agrees to dispense with or vary the requirement.

Reason: To conserve and safeguard the visual amenities of the locality.