

Recommendation: **RAISE NO OBJECTION**

Listed Building Grade: Not applicable.
Conservation Area: Brockhampton

5 **Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations**

Landscape Team

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: 15

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.

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.

These works relate to a number of trees located at St Joseph's Church, which falls within the Brockhampton conservation area. These include twenty mature Conifer trees and a mature Sycamore, all of which create a linear grouping along the rear, northern boundary that adjoins residential gardens. The trees have limited views from the street scene, with only distance glimpses through the entrance of the Church's car park. Although they possess minimal amenity value, the trees contribute well to the tree cover in the area and provide a privacy screen between the Church grounds and the neighbouring properties. The trees were viewed at a distance from the car park and therefore their overall condition could not be fully assessed, however all the trees appear to be displaying what is normal in vigour and vitality. Their main stems are surrounded by lawn and are in close proximity to one another. The proposed works to crown raise the Conifers to a height of 2.5m would aid in the carrying out of general ground maintenance by removing the interference that the low level branches cause with regards to grass cutting operations. This, as well as the removal of broken branches as stipulated in the proposal, would not detriment the health of the trees. The application also makes reference to the removal of basal growth on the Sycamore tree, which would be considered well within sensible cyclical management. All of the proposed works are of a reasonable level of general maintenance, none of which would detriment the aesthetic integrity of the conservation area.

8 Conclusion

Raise No Objection

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **RAISE NO OBJECTION** for application APP/17/00153

(A)

(B) for the following reasons/subject to the following conditions