

REPORT FROM: PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES MANAGER

TO: COLNE & DISTRICT COMMITTEE

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21/004/TCA – Section 211 Notice for removal of trees at Heyroyd, Skipton Road, Colne

PURPOSE OF REPORT

For members to determine an application for the removal of trees in a Conservation Area that are in the ownership of a Councillor.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee raise no objection to the removal of the trees and allow the work to go ahead.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Ash tree is suffering from Ash Dieback with around 50% of the canopy dead. The tree also has little or no amenity value and is not suitable for Tree Preservation Order.
2. The Elm's are in poor condition. The trees have little or no amenity value and are not suitable for Tree Preservation Order.

ISSUE

1. An application was received from a Councillor to remove an Ash and two Elm trees at Heyroyd, Skipton Road, Colne. Where a Councillor submits an application for tree work it must go to Committee for a decision.
2. The application is for tree work in a Conservation Area as such the Council have three options. These are:
 - Do not raise an objection to the work and as such allow the work to go ahead.
 - Raise an objection to the work. A Tree Preservation Order must then be placed on the trees prevent the work going ahead. This is providing the tree is suitable for a Preservation Order
 - Do not respond. After the six week application period the applicant can go ahead with the work.

3. The Ash tree is located to the rear of the property and is not clearly visible from any public areas. It is a relative young, small tree. The tree is suffering from Ash Dieback with around 50% of the canopy already. It is unlikely to recover and will deteriorate further over the next couple of seasons until it is dead. Due to condition and its low amenity value the tree is unsuitable for Preservation Order.
4. The two Elms are located in the front garden close to the roadside pedestrian gate to the property. These are trees that have sprouted up from roots of large Elm trees that have been removed in the past. This will have been due to Dutch Elm Disease in the 1980's. The sprouting of new shoots of an old stem is a common occurrence in the species.
5. Both Elms are relatively young trees. T1 (see appendix 1 for map) has lost bark at the base and rot is evident. T2 has an included joint in the base which bark damage. Dutch Elm Disease is still prevalent within the Borough it is unlikely that the trees will reach maturity. While they are close to the road and clearly visible they are not specimens of any merit. As such due to their condition and relatively low amenity value they are not suitable for Preservation Order.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy:

None

Financial:

None

Legal:

Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended in the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012 determines the laws with regard to tree management in Conservation Areas and designation of Tree Preservation Orders. The only implication rising out of the report is the maintenance of a register of applications. This is freely available from the Council's website.

Risk Management:

None

Health and Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

Community Safety:

None

Equality and Diversity:

None

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Map and photographs of the trees.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 – Map & Photographs

21/0047/TCA - Heyroyd, Skipton Road, Colne

Map showing location of trees to be removed.





Figure 1 - T1 Elm



Figure 2 - Loss of bark and rot at the base of T1



Figure 3 - T2 Elm



Figure 4 - Included basal joint and start of bark loss on T2