



PLANNING COMMITTEE:

DATE 20th February 2020.

Report of: Corporate Director of Place & Community

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**SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREES IN
A CONSERVATION AREA.**

Wards affected: Aughton and Downholland Ward.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise Members of a notification of intention to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area made by a Councillor of West Lancashire Borough Council and consider if the trees concerned should be protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMITTEE

- 2.1 That the Council does not object to the proposed works.
 - 2.2 That the trees are not made subject to a TPO.
 - 2.3 That replacement planting is not sought from the applicant.
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3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The trees are situated in the garden of 23 Granville Park, Aughton which is in the Granville Park Conservation Area.
- 3.2 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 makes special provision for trees in Conservation Areas which are not subject of TPO's.
- 3.3 Under section 21 of the Town and Country Planning 1990 anyone proposing to cut down or carry out work on a tree in a Conservation Area is required to give the Council 6 weeks' notice of their intention to do so. The purpose of this requirement is to give the Council an opportunity to consider bringing the trees under their general control by making a TPO.

3.4 The above notifications are normally dealt with under delegated powers. However this particular notification has been received from a West Lancashire Borough Councillor and accordingly is being referred to this Committee for consideration.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The trees in question consist of a group of four mature Cypress trees, a Mature Cedar tree a mature Oak and an early mature Cypress.

4.2 The notification consists of the following works:

- G1 Remove the group of four Cypress trees.
- T1. Prune the Cedar to reduce encroachment away from the house by 2 to 3 metres by removing secondary branches that have grown close to the house.
- T2 crown thin the Oak by 20% to 25% to reduce the density of the crown and reduce shading to the property.
- T3. Remove a single Cypress tree.

5.0 COMMENTS

5.1 The group of four Cypress do cause excessive shading to the property and damage and disruption to the adjacent driveway surface.

The proposed works to the Cedar are minimal and would not unduly affect the shape or appearance of the tree.

The work to the Oak is substantial but will maintain the shape of the tree without threatening the health of the tree.

The single Cypress is suppressed and of poor quality.

5.2 The garden contains numerous trees and the proposed works would not lead to any notable loss with regard to the setting or amenity of property.

The Granville Park Conservation Area is in part characterised by the amount and diversity of tree cover in private gardens.

The proposed tree works would not lead to any notable visual loss or detriment to the amenity value of the Granville Park Conservation Area.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 By encouraging and promoting appropriate management of trees and woodland the Council can influence the benefits that trees may provide which include:-

- Enhancement and maintaining the environment through nature conservation by providing wildlife habitats.

- Reduction of the 'Greenhouse' effect by fixing atmospheric carbon from the air and the release of oxygen.
- Improving and maintaining air quality by filtering out particulates from the atmosphere.
- Visual enhancement by acting as screening between the built environments.
- Reducing noise pollution particularly along roads.

6.2 The proposed works would have negligible impacts on the above factors.

7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None, unless Members resolve to make a Tree Preservation Order.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 The actions referred to in this report are covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and no risks to the Council are anticipated.

9.0 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The quality or the trees proposed for removal do not warrant consideration for a Tree Preservation Order.

Background Documents

The following background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing this Report.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Document</u>	<u>File Ref</u>
15 th January 2020	Notification (211) Application form.	current 211 notices.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

1. Plan showing positions of trees.
2. Photographs