

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMITTEE

**CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION (14 WEST END ROAD, EPWORTH)
ORDER 2017**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 Decision as to whether the Tree Preservation (14 West End Road, Epworth) Order 2017 be confirmed or not.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 An application to develop the site was made in 2017 for outline planning for five residential properties (PA/2017/181).
- 2.2 Several members of the public, Epworth Town Council and Ward councillors' contacted North Lincolnshire Council, concerned that the trees around this site were under threat of being removed and that they serve an important visual barrier between the urban and historical landscapes beyond. An Area Tree Preservation Order has been placed on the site in order to allow time for proper consideration to be given to the trees.
- 2.3 The owner of the tree has objected to the making of this order, and this is the reason that this matter brought to this committee to decide whether this Tree Preservation Order (TPO) be confirmed. Confirmation would need to be undertaken prior to 13 June 2018, otherwise the TPO would lapse.
- 2.4 PA/2017/181 was considered at the May 2018 Planning Committee. However, it was deferred for a site visit and will be considered at the 6 June 2018 committee.
- 2.4 The TPO placed on this site is an Area order, and would need to be changed into a Group Order if the order be confirmed, to be two groups of Ash and Sycamore trees.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To confirm the TPO, and enable the trees to continue to be protected by the order, or to not confirm the order and allow the tree owners to remove the trees if they so wish.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 The trees form a barrier between the historic landscape (LC14 of local plan) to the North of the site and the more urban environment of dwellings within Epworth.
- 4.2 The intended planning application (PA/2017/181) also being considered by this Planning Committee – can apart from the loss of two/three trees at the entrance be actioned without the remaining trees being compromised. However if the TPO was confirmed the trees would continue to provide the barrier between the historic landscape and urbanised areas.
- 4.3 That if the Committee are minded to confirm this order that the coniferous hedge that runs North/South along the site not be considered require continued protection, however the order be changed in line with good TPO practice from an Area Order to two Groups of the Ash and Sycamores that are within the outer edges of the site.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 None

6. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 6.1 Epworth Town Council, Ward Councillors and many objections were received in response to the planning application (PA/2017/181) and requests from many that a Tree Preservation Order protect the trees.
- 6.2 The landowner and the agent working on their behalf on the planning application objected to the making of this TPO.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 That the planning committee confirm this Tree Preservation Order

DIRECTOR: OPERATIONS

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report



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