

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT OF: **Arboricultural Officer**
TO: **Planning Committee** **4th March 2015**
WARD: **ECH**

**TREE WORKS 5, 6 and 7 Capstan Close
TO Fell, pollard, coppice Willows.**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Further to 211 Notice, 14/605/TTCA and the Serving of TPO 03/2015. An application has now been submitted under the TPO Regulations. 15/097/TTPO
- 1.2 Previous objections to the works proposed in the 211 Notice are pertinent to this application. Additional comments have also been made reiterating that the extent of work would be detrimental to public amenity and habitat.
- 1.3 Members are therefore asked to consider whether or to confirm the TPO and whether or not to grant consent for the works proposed in 15/097/TTPO.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The TPO be confirmed

and

Tree works are allowed subject to condition.

3.0 REVISED TREE WORK APPLICATION

- 3.1 The 211 Notice was made by Mr Sharp of 5 Capstan Close on behalf of himself and his neighbours at 6 and 7.

Proposed Works

T1 - Willow - Remove low branch growing over stream

T2 - Willow - Pollard above bifurcation at approx 4m

T3 and T4 - Willow - Pollard above bifurcation at approx. 5m
T5 - Willow - 20% crown reduction
T6 - Willow - Remove
T7 and T8 - Pollard above bifurcation at approx. 5m
T9 - Willow - Coppice at ground level
T10 - Willow - Pollard above bifurcation at approx. 5m
T11 - Willow - Pollard above bifurcation at approx. 6m
T12 - Willow - Pollard above bifurcation at approx. 4m
T13 - Willow - Coppice at ground level

3.2 Following objections from Riverside the owner of T1, T2 and T3 has decided not to carry out works at this time.

4.0 OFFICER COMMENTS

4.1 As previously stated, there is no evidence presented to support a claim that the trees are a current danger and that the works are therefore required to mitigate such danger. However pollarding is an acceptable way of managing willows. As these trees move in maturity and over-maturity the potential for failure will increase. Pollarding trees significantly reduces wind loading and allows the safe retention of trees for considerably longer than if they were allowed to grow naturally. Proactive management by bringing trees in to a pollarding regime when they are healthy is more likely to be successful than if brought in to manage decline.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 A TPO is considered appropriate to maintain the necessary level of protection for the Willows and condition any repeat works. However although not required to abate immediate risk pro-active management of the Willows by introducing pollarding is appropriate for this site and, with consideration of pollard heights and staggering repeat works, will have no material impact on the island character and amenity contribution. Members are therefore respectfully requested to confirm the TPO and allow works to trees T4 to T13, subject to condition.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: The following are the background papers that were used in the preparation of this report:

TWAs 14/605/TTCA and 15/097/TTPO
Tree Preservation Orders: a guide to the law and good practice
Comments received from residents

To inspect these documents please either view Public Access or contact Joanna Davies on extension 8522

The author and contact officer for queries on the report is Joanna Davies on extension 8522

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