

PUBLIC APPEALS COMMITTEE - 10 AUGUST 2005

Councillor R M Sutherland (Chairman)

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

Mrs L Davies

P G Goodland

W J Kemp

G O Rowlands

J C Sillito

A H Stafford Northcote

PA5 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2005 submitted and signed.

PA6 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B M Cross (substitute Councillor A H Stafford Northcote), A T A Godfrey (substitute Councillor W J Kemp) and J H Kennedy (Substitute Councillor G O Rowlands).

PA7 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO 339, 2005 - TREES AT 14 BISHOP'S COURT, ECCLESHALL

The Committee considered an objection to Tree Preservation Order No 339, 2005 from Mr N P Williams, 14 Bishops Court, Eccleshall. The objection related to two trees - T2, a mature field maple and G1, a group of cypresses.

The Order had been made to protect the trees following a consultation relating to development proposals at 14 Bishops Court, Eccleshall.

The Order had been made since it was considered that the Trees had public amenity value, contributed to the overall treescape and gave scale to surrounding buildings.

The objection to T2 maple and G1 was based on the fact that at their present size the trees limited the amount of light into the side and rear elevations of the property which caused a potential security issue with the limited street lighting. In addition, the growth of grass was restricted to the side/rear garden due to the moss growth/dampness caused by the natural lack of sunlight.

The Committee was asked to consider whether G1 of the Order comprised a hedge, in which case inclusion in the Order would be inappropriate, or a line of trees of reasonable height.

A copy of the Tree Preservation Order, the report of Head of Planning and Engineering Services, the original objection letter and subsequent letter were circulated to Members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

The Committee visited the site with the owner of the property.

Mr Williams attended the meeting and spoke in support of his objection. Mr P Windmill, Forward Planning Manager and Mr D Thorman, Consultant Arboriculturist, attended the meeting and spoke on this matter.

The Committee considered carefully the representations made by both the Council's Officer, the Consultant Arboriculturist and the owner of 14 Bishop's Court.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the authority delegated to the Committee, Tree Preservation Order No 339, 2005 be confirmed subject to the following modification:-

The deletion of G1(cypress) on the grounds that the group comprised a hedge, and in any event the trees had limited public amenity value.

The Committee's reason for confirming the order subject to the modification was:-

The trees T1 and T2 included in the Tree Preservation Order have public amenity value and contribute to the overall treescape of the area.

(A copy of the documents referred to are available upon request from the Head of Law and Administration).

Proceedings commenced at 9.30am and terminated at 11.05 am .