

PUBLIC APPEALS COMMITTEE - 13 APRIL 2006

Councillor Sutherland (Chairman)

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

Councillors:-

A S Harp	J C Sillito
W J Kemp	R M Sutherland
P M Rowlands	

PA27 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2006 submitted and signed.

PA28 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B M Cross (substitute Councillor A S Harp), Mrs L Davies, A T A Godfrey (substitute Councillor P M Rowlands), P G Goodland and J H Kennedy (substitute Councillor W J Kemp).

PA29 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO 365 OF 2005 - TREES ON LAND ADJACENT TO 196 MAIN ROAD, MILFORD

The Committee considered an objection to Tree Preservation Order No 365 of 2005 from Mr D Ashton, 198 Main Road, Milford, an adjoining land owner. A further letter of support for the objection had also been received from Mr D C Wright, The Cedars, Radford Rise, Stafford.

The Order had been made to protect the trees following the submission of a planning application for a detached dwelling on 196 Main Road. It was considered that the trees had significant amenity value, having group impact; they screened development and gave scale to surrounding buildings and contributed to the overall treescape in the area.

Mr Ashton had objected to the Order on the grounds that the European Larch in G2 was an eyesore, covered in ivy, making it almost grotesque, was in danger of fouling his telephone line and suggested that it should be felled before it fell down of its own accord. He also objected to the inclusion of the 4 Norway Spruce and the Apple Tree within G1 of the Order on the grounds that Spruces were unsuitable as garden trees, nothing flourished under them and their angular outlines jarred with the softer shapes of gardens trees when set in a stark line.

A copy of the Tree Preservation Order, the report of Head of Planning and Engineering Services, the objection letter and the letter received from Mr Wright was circulated to members of the Committee prior to the meeting. The Committee accompanied by Mr Ashton and Mr Wright and the

Council's Arboriculturist, inspected the trees from Mr Ashton's garden and the main road. The Committee did not view the trees from 196 Main Road, Milford.

Mr Ashton attended the meeting accompanied by Mr Wright and both spoke in support of Mr Ashton's objection to the Order. Mr D Woodhouse, the Council's Arboriculturist, attended the meeting on behalf of the Head of Planning and Engineering Services.

The Committee considered carefully representations made by both the objector and his colleague, and the Council's Officer.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the authority delegated to the Committee, Tree Preservation Order No 365 of 2005 be confirmed without modification.

The Committee's reason for confirming the Order was that removal of any of the trees would have a significant impact on the local environment and their enjoyment by the public.

Proceedings commenced at 9.30 am and termination at 11.10 am.