

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:P12/1585

Type of approval sought	Tree Preservation Order
Ward	Wollaston & Stourbridge Town
Applicant	Mr Martin Mueller
Location:	11, HEATH STREET, STOURBRIDGE, DY8 1SQ
Proposal	FELL 1 CYPRESS TREE AND REDUCE 1 SYCAMORE BY 30%. TRIM OFF EPICORMIC GROWTH.
Recommendation Summary:	APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO: D298 (1990) – T1 & T2

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

1. The trees subject to this application are a mature cypress tree and a mature sycamore tree that are located in the front garden of 11 Heath Street Stourbridge. Both trees are relatively large specimens situated in what is a relatively small front garden. Both trees are visible from the adjacent highway. Overall it is considered that the cypress tree provides a moderate to low amount of amenity to the area and the sycamore tree provides a moderate amount of amenity to the surrounding area.

PROPOSAL

2. Summary of proposals for the works as written on application form is as follows:
 - Fell 1 cypress tree and crown reduce 1 sycamore tree by 30%.
3. The trees have been marked on the attached plan.
4. The public consultation period for the application does not expire until the day of the committee.
5. In order to ensure that all submitted public representations can be considered, it is proposed that, rather than determining the application, the committee, if minded to do so grant delegated powers to enable officers to determine the application following

the expiration of the public consultation period, if no adverse representations are received.

HISTORY

6. There have been no previous tree preservation order applications on the site.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

7. No public representations had been received at the time of writing the report; however the public consultation period has not yet expired. Any representations that are received will be presented to the committee in the form of pre-committee notes.

ASSESSMENT

Tree(s) Appraisal

<i>Tree Structure</i>	Tree 1	Tree 2
Species	Cypress	Sycamore
Height (m)	9	10
Spread (m)	3	7
DBH (mm)	350	450
Canopy Architecture	Moderate - previously topped	Good
Overall Form	Moderate / Poor	Moderate
Age Class <i>Yng / EM / M / OM / V</i>	Mature	Mature

Structural

Assessment

Trunk / Root Collar	Good	Good		
Scaffold Limbs	Good	Good		
Secondary Branches	Good	Good		
% Deadwood	15%	5%		
Root Defects	None Evident	None Evident		
Root Disturbance	None Evident	None Evident		
Other				
Failure Foreseeable <i>Imm / Likely / Possible</i>	Whole No	Whole No	Whole No	Whole No

/ No				
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Vigour Assessment

Vascular Defects	Impaired vitality	None Evident
Foliage Defects	None Evident	None Evident
Leaf Size	Good	Not In Leaf
Foliage Density	Sparse Canopy	Not In Leaf
Other		

Overall Assessment

Structure	Good	Good
Vigour	Moderate / Poor	Good
Overall Health	Good	Good

Other Issues

Light Obstruction	Slight	Yes
Physical Damage	None Evident	None Evident
Surface Disruption	None Evident	None Evident
Debris	Yes	Yes

Amenity

Assessment

Visible	Yes	Yes
Prominence	Moderate / High	Moderate / High
Part of Wider Feature?	No	No
Characteristic of Area	Yes	Yes
Amenity Value	Moderate / Low	Moderate

Further Assessment

8. The applicant has proposed to fell the cypress tree and prune the sycamore in order to reduce the shading to the adjacent property.
9. On inspection it was noted that the cypress tree is a relatively poor specimen that has poor form due to previous pruning and would appear to have poor vitality due to the sparse nature of its crown. Overall the tree is not considered to be a specimen that is worthy of retention. It is also considered that the tree will shade the adjacent property and its removal will be beneficial to the residents of the property.

10. The sycamore, whilst a better 'specimen' is a more spreading tree, and when in leaf will obstruct more light from the adjacent property. As such whilst it is desirable to retain the tree it is considered that the proposed pruning of the tree is acceptable.
11. The proposed pruning of the sycamore will reduce the overall size of the tree, allowing more light through, and will also reduce the branches back from the roof of the adjacent property, as they are currently touching the roof as they move in the wind.
12. Overall it is considered that both the felling of the cypress tree and the pruning of the sycamore tree is appropriate and justified and as such should be approved.

CONCLUSION

13. The applicant has proposed to fell the cypress tree and to prune the sycamore tree in order to allow more light to the adjacent property.
14. It is considered that the cypress is a relatively poor specimen that has impaired form and vitality. Overall it is not considered that the cypress tree is worthy of retention and the proposal to fell the tree should be approved.
15. The sycamore tree is a relatively large tree for its location, and blocks substantial light from the adjacent property. It is considered that the proposed 30% crown reduction is appropriate as it will serve to reduce the amount of light obstructed, and also prevent any damage to the tiles on the roof by providing a sufficient clearance.
16. Overall it is considered that both the felling of the cypress tree and the pruning of the sycamore tree is appropriate and justified and as such should be approved.

RECOMMENDATION

17. It is recommended that delegated powers are granted to the Director of the Urban Environment to approve the application subject to the stated conditions, following the expiration of the public consultation period, as long as no further adverse comments are received.

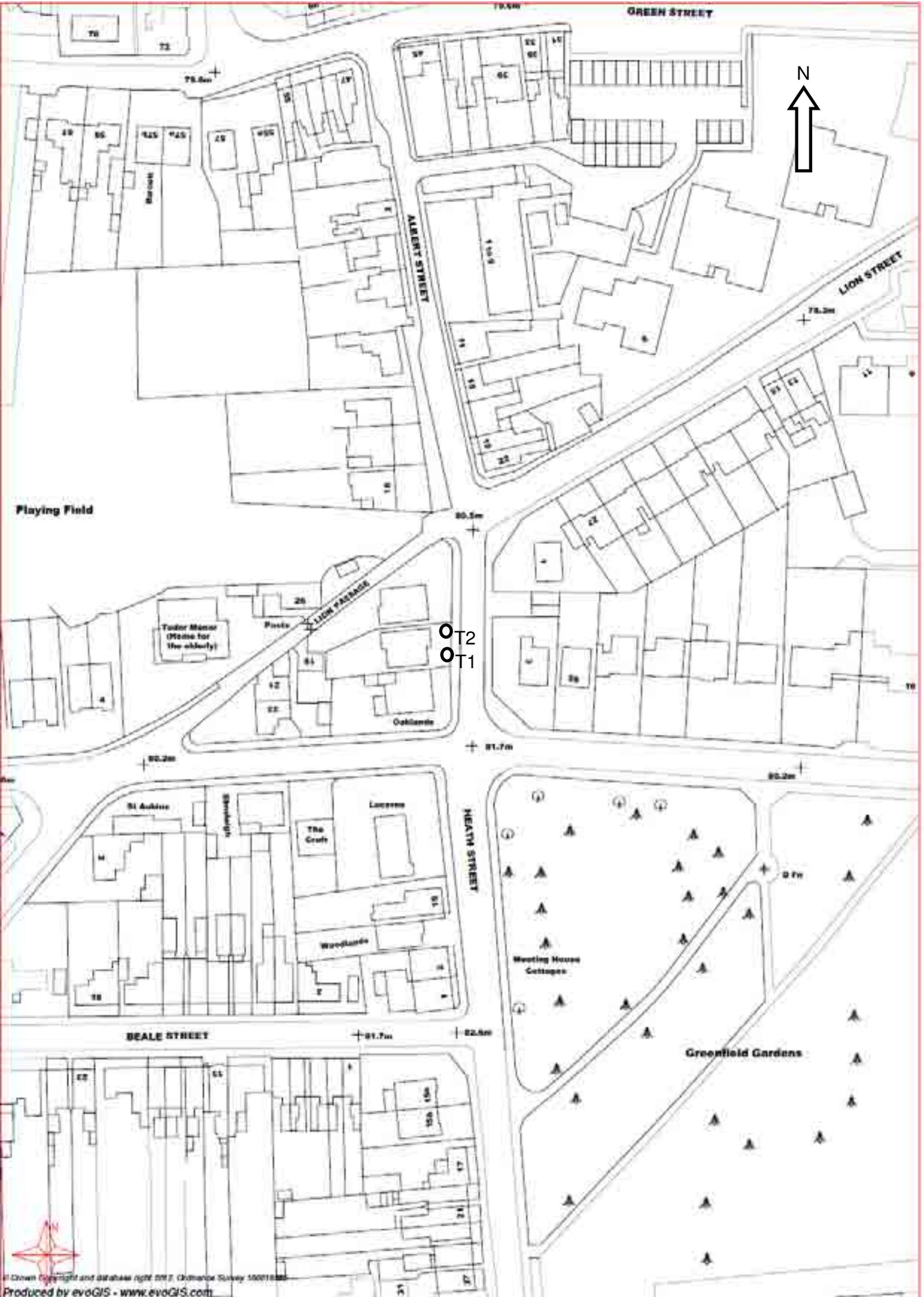
Reason for Approval

18. The cypress tree is a relatively poor specimen and is not considered worthy of retention. The sycamore tree obstructs a significant amount of light from the adjacent property and it is considered that the proposed pruning will provide

significant benefits to the application without having any significantly detrimental impact on the amenity of the area.

Conditions and/or reasons:

1. The tree works subject of this consent shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 'Recommendations for Treework'.



Playing Field

Tutor Manor
(Home for the elderly)

T2
T1

Wooding House Cottages

Greenfield Gardens

