

**AGENDA ITEM NO.15**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>12 DECEMBER 2012</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>TPO REFERENCE: NW/2/65/3</b>

**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to request authority from members to revoke Tree Preservation Order (TPO) NW/2/65/3 at Bridge Lane, Wimblington given that the trees are no longer in existence.

**2. SUMMARY**

Matters relating to the issue and confirmation of unopposed TPOs are normally dealt with by delegated powers, however, the revocation of any confirmed TPO falls outside the scheme of delegation and as such this matter is duly referred to Committee for authority to proceed with the revocation.

The site has been inspected by our Arboricultural Consultant following a routine visit and the trees, which had been previously identified as Group 1 and Group 2, were no longer evident.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

It is, therefore, recommended that members authorise that TPO NW/2/65/3 is formally revoked.

<b>Forward Plan Reference No.</b> <small>(if applicable)</small>	Not applicable
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Report Originator</b>	Alison Callaby, Planning Performance Manager
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	Alison Callaby, Planning Performance Manager
<b>Background Paper(s)</b>	TPO NW/2/65/3

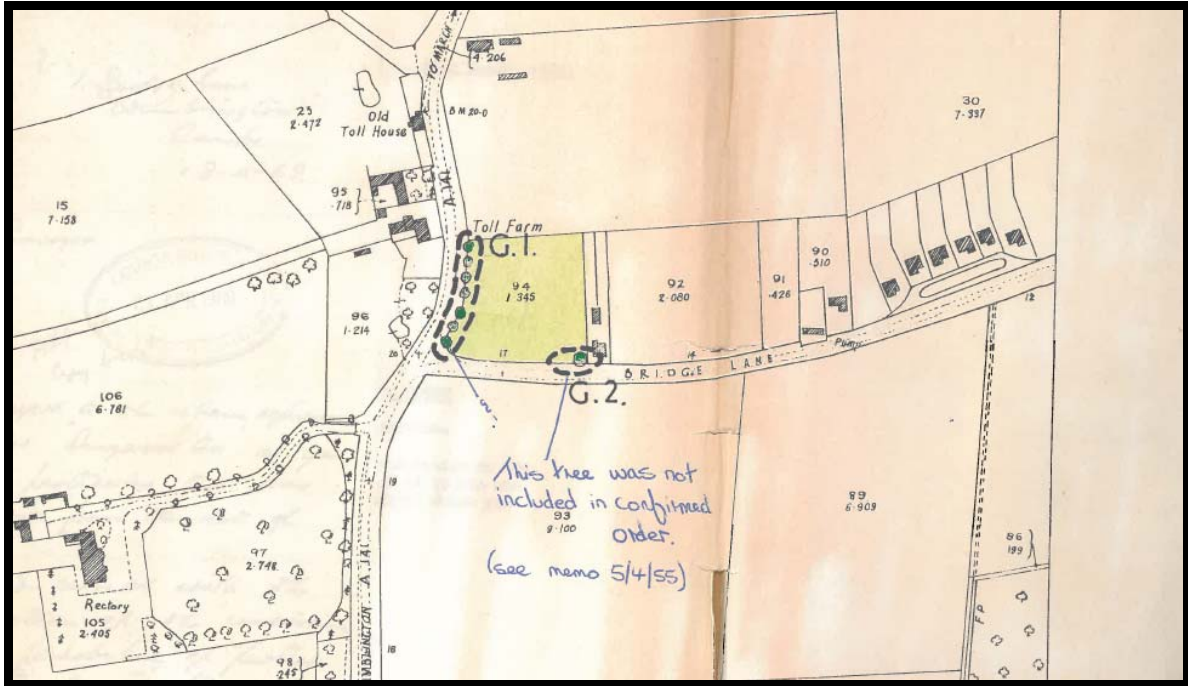
## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Following a review of the site in response to an enquiry, it became apparent that the historic TPO was no longer relevant as the Groups of Trees previously identified were no longer in evidence.
- 1.2 The TPO file held in the offices indicates that the original TPO, made in 1955, covered 8 Elm trees in total with G1 (western boundary) being a group consisting of 7 Elms and G2 (southern boundary) comprising 1 Elm
- 1.3 Other correspondence on the file indicates that over the passage of time various works and felling has occurred, a brief resume of the same is as follows:
  - i) (1955) G2: Elm not confirmed in the Order – memorandum dated 05.04.1955 refers
  - ii) (1955) Consent granted to fell two trees at the southern end of G1 (corner of Bridge Lane)
  - iii) (1968) A dangerous tree adjacent to the highway (Bridge Lane) was documented as felled
  - iv) (1969) Consent granted for thinning works and removal of lower branches
  - v) (1969) It was reported that the remaining trees on site were in a dangerous condition and confirmation was requested from the Council that they would assume any liability for any damage caused by the trees. No acknowledgement or further action is detailed in respect of the outcomes of this communication.

## **2. ASSESSMENT**

- 2.1 The site has been inspected and it has been found that none of the trees originally identified in the original order remain.
- 2.2 Having considered the file records it is clear that various works have been authorised since the original order was made, which have over time, have resulted in the majority of the protected trees being lost. Of the 8 trees identified there is documentary evidence in respect of the removal of 4 of these.
- 2.3 In addition to the above it is also noted that the reported deterioration in the remainder of the trees, highlighted under (v), corresponded with an outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease in the late 1960s.
- 2.4 It is clear that there are no trees at this site which warrant retention accordingly it is considered entirely appropriate to revoke the original TPO and authority is therefore sought from the Planning Committee to enable this to be actioned.

Appendix 1 – TPO NW/2/465/3



Not to Scale