

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 14**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Date**            **3 APRIL 2013**

**Title**            **TPO 14/2012, TPO AT 3 HIGH STREET, BENWICK**

**1.    PURPOSE**

**The purpose of this report is to advise members of the current situation in respect of confirmation of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at 3 High Street, Benwick and to determine an appropriate course of action**

**2.    SUMMARY**

Matters relating to the issue and confirmation of a TPO are normally dealt with by delegated powers and confirmations are only referred to this Committee where objections to the Order are received. The horse chestnut trees are prominent in the locality and provide screen and landscape value and contribute to the character of the area.

The trees in question are already listed on TPO 21/1986 but were incorrectly plotted. Therefore for the avoidance of doubt TPO 14/2012 has been made to correct the location of the trees in question and ensure their protection is on going.

**3.    RECOMMENDATION**

**It is therefore recommended that members confirm the TPO in respect of the 4 horse chestnut trees, which were previously covered by TPO/21/86 at 3 High Street, Benwick**

<b>Forward Plan Reference No.</b> (if applicable)	Not applicable
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Report Originator</b>	Sheila Black
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	Graham Nourse, Chief Planning Officer
<b>Background Paper(s)</b>	Not applicable

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The 4 horse chestnut trees, the subject of TPO 14/2012, have previously been protected under TPO 21/86, but were found to be incorrectly plotted hence the reason for the current TPO request. The Order was subject to a 28 day period for the receipt of any objections prior to final confirmation.
- 1.2 When consulted a neighbouring property at 2A Doddington Road, Benwick, raised issues relating to one of the trees, annotated as T04 on the TPO, regarding the apparent health of the tree and the shedding of broken branches.

## **2. ASSESSMENT**

- 2.1 The Order, which encompasses the aforementioned trees, is detailed on the accompanying plan.
- 2.2 The placement of a TPO does not prevent tree works or even removal, but gives the Local Planning Authority control over 'inappropriate' works.
- 2.3 Recent approved works to the trees include a phased pollarding of the tree that the neighbour is concerned about. It is considered that the agreed works will overcome the fears of the neighbours relating to branches falling into their garden.
- 2.4 The trees are worthy of retention due to their amenity values and contributions to the character of the area. It is therefore recommended that the TPO is confirmed.



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**TPO 14/2012**  
**3 High Street, Benwick**  
**T01-T04 Horse Chestnut**

