

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Date	5 February 2014
Title	TPO 07/2013 – 1 Wild Cherry, 1 Sycamore, 1 Horse Chestnut at 30 Eastrea Road, Whittlesey.

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 30, Eastrea Road in Whittlesey, 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 only where objections to the Order are received are they referred to this committee.

The grounds for making the Order are that the trees provide important screening and amenity value and character to the area. They are of long-term potential and worthy of retention.

The decision to seek the retention of these trees was made in November 2013.

The trees subject to this TPO are located within the rear garden of 30 Eastrea Road in Whittlesey.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is therefore recommended that members confirm the TPO in respect of the specified trees at 30, Eastrea Road, Whittlesey.

Forward Plan Reference No. (if applicable)	Not applicable
Portfolio Holder(s)	Not applicable
Report Originator	Rebecca Norman, Senior Planning Officer
Contact Officer(s)	Graham Nourse, Head of Planning
Background Paper(s)	-

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Following a request by a neighbouring resident, a site visit was carried out by the Arboricultural Officer to inspect the aforementioned trees. It was considered that they provided important screening and had high amenity value. The trees are of long-term potential and worthy of retention and therefore the Authority sought to issue a TPO. The Order was subject to a 28 day period for the receipt of any objections prior to final confirmation.

2. OBJECTION FROM NEIGHBOURS

2.1 Two letters have been received from the adjoining residents to the east and west of the site objecting to the TPO raising the following points:

- Whilst in favour of protecting the trees due to their character and screening they have had no work done to them since they were planted 20 years ago.
- At present the Cherry has branches which hang 2.5 metres over our property and directly over a garden building. During the recent storms the branches dislodged some roof slates on the garden building.
- We would like to prune (or have pruned) some of the overhanging branches to stop further damage.
- If the trees remain unpruned it will be detrimental to the property value and will limit the enjoyment of their property.
- The trees have the potential to affect the structural integrity of the property and the outbuildings.
- The trees will affect the sunlight if allowed to grow further.
- There are already more mature trees in the area that add far more character but are not subject to TPOs.
- Believe the trees add little or no value to the area and are detrimental to it.
- Would like to continue to have the right to prune back any part of the tree that overhangs the boundary.
- The trees already require the services of a tree surgeon. They are of no special interest, are not particularly mature and have no heritage associated with them.

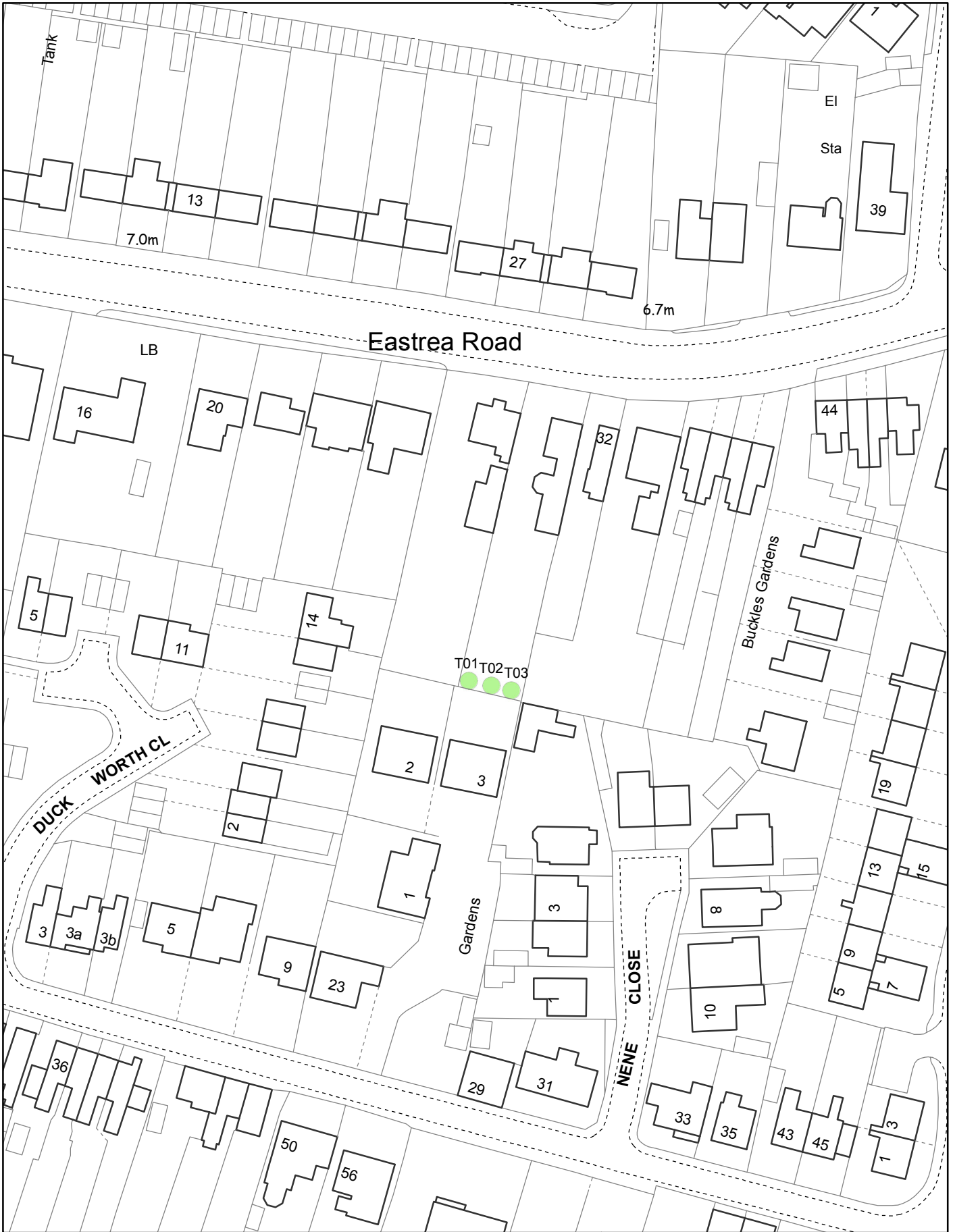
3. ASSESSMENT

3.1 The Order, which encompasses the aforementioned trees, is detailed on the accompanying plan.

3.2 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 decision to seek the retention of the trees was made in November 2013.

3.3 The placement of a TPO does not prevent tree works or even removal, but gives the Local Planning Authority control over 'inappropriate' works.

- 3.4 Having given due consideration to both the representations made and the further observations of the Councils Arboricultural Consultant, Officers are satisfied that the TPO should be confirmed as made.
- 3.5 It is therefore recommended that the TPO is confirmed in accordance with the Order TPO 07/2013.



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TPO 07/2013
TPO 30 Eastrea Road, Whittlesey
T01 Wild Cherry,
T02 Horse Chestnut, T03 Sycamore

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