

**PLANNING  
COMMITTEE**

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

**Tree Preservation Order (6) 2023 Land Side of 41 High House Drive, Lickey,  
Bromsgrove B45 8ET**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr A. Sherry
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Head of Planning and Environmental Services
Ward(s) Affected	Lickey
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Non-Key Decision	

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to consider the confirmation without modification of Tree Preservation Order (6) 2023 Land Side of 41 High House Drive, Lickey, Bromsgrove.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.2 It is recommended that provisional Tree Preservation Order (6) 2023 Land Side of 41 High House Drive, Lickey, Bromsgrove is confirmed without modification and made permanent as raised and shown in appendix (1).

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications relating to the confirmation of the TPO.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.3 Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 2012 covers this procedure.

**Service / Operational Implications**

**Background:**

- 3.4 The provisional order was raised on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 as a result of a tree surgery company attending the site advising that they had been instructed to fell the trees included within the order.

3.5 One objection has been received in respect of the provisional TPO having been raised as follows:

- A letter from Mr Terence Sowerby as shown in appendix (2).

My comments in relation to the issues raised in the objection are as follows:

High House Drive is a private road and dead end with no public foot paths leading from it in the area of the land containing the trees. However, access to High House Drive is not restricted by a gated entrance and serves 32 properties and Lickey Hills Primary and Nursery School. A section of the western end of the road is wider than the width of the rest of the carriageway which is generally narrow and therefore people in vehicles tend to go to that end of the road to turn around. The trees are clearly visible from a 50 metres section of the western end of the road where the turning take place. This 50 metre section of the western end of the road also offers a viewpoint due to its elevation over the wider landscape to the South which I believe many people visit to taken advantage of this outlook. I have received 13 Email messages of support for the TPO as shown in appendices (3) from residents of High House Drive and the surrounding area that evidences how much the trees are appreciated and valued.

Ivy only uses the structure of a tree as a climbing frame and therefore can be easily managed by either being fully removed from the crown or having a band width cleared within the growth on the main stem of the tree causing it to die off in the crown.

Crown pruning can easily be carried out to ensure that any phone or power lines are clear of disruption by the tree.

The tree that fell was a very mature age class Sycamore which from the evidence of the remaining stump looks to have had some decay issues within the main stem and buttressing which is likely to have led to it failing as shown in photo (6) of appendix (4).

There is one small wound on the main stem that is producing some Bleeding as shown in photo (1) of appendix (4), which could potentially be evidence of a Bleeding Canker infection in the tree. However, the tree is showing no other signs of decline that would indicate the presence of this disease in fact the crown is very well shaped and balance and in full leaf cover and strong growth

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throughout. Horse Chestnut trees are known to either go into remission from the effects of the disease or even recover. In view of the level of evidence that this disease is present in the tree and its overall vigour and good condition it would be far too early to condemn the tree for this reason at this time.

- 3.6 Policy Implications- None  
HR Implications- None  
Council Objective 4- Environment, Priority C04 Planning
- 3.7 Climate Change / Carbon/ Biodiversity- The proposal in relation to confirming the TPO can only be seen as a positive impact on the environment.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.8 The customers have been provided with the relevant notification and the responses received are attached in the appendices. The customers will receive notification by post of the decision of the committee.
- 3.9 Equalities and Diversity implications- None

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the details included in this report.

**5. APPENDICES**

List Appendices.

Appendix (1) Schedule and Plan of Provisional Order as raised  
Appendix (2) Letter of Objection from Mr Terence Sowerby  
Appendix (3) Emails of Support For TPO  
Appendix (4) photographs of Trees included within the order.

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**7. KEY**

TPO - Tree Preservation Order

**7.1 Conclusion and recommendations:**

Tree preservation order guidance states that “Orders should be made to protect selected trees and woodland if their removal would have a significant negative impact on the local environment and its enjoyment by the public. Also, that the size and form of the tree/ trees, future potential amenity value where development might occur and the contribution to and relationship with the landscape of the tree should be considered.

The trees included within this order are of good growth habit and in strong vigour and add greatly to the character of the landscape of this area which would be poorer for their loss.

Therefore, I recommend to the committee that Tree Preservation Order (6) 2023 is confirmed and made permanent without modification as shown in appendix (1) of this report.

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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