

Decision Maker: PLANS SUB-COMMITTEE NO. 3

Date: Thursday 28 July 2016

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 2624
AT THE BEECH STUDIO, HAWKWOOD LANE, CHISLEHURST,
KENT, BR7 5PW

Contact Officer: Chris Ryder, Principal Tree Officer
E-mail: christopher.ryder@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Chief Planner

Ward: Chislehurst;

1. Reason for report

To consider an objection received against the making of the above mentioned Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The beech tree makes an important contribution to the visual amenity of the surrounding area and is of high amenity value. The TPO should therefore be confirmed to prevent excessive works from taking place.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Quality Environment:
-

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre:
 4. Total current budget for this head: £
 5. Source of funding:
-

Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 3
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
-

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Those affected by the TPO.
-

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 TPO 2624 was made on the 23rd March 2016 and relates to a mature beech tree located within the confines of The Beech Studio, Hawkwood Lane, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 5PW.
- 3.2 An objection was received from the neighbouring resident (Ms An Wellens) at No.6 Rectory Place, Hawkwood Lane, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 5PN.
- 3.3 The objection raises an issue surrounding light and past management. Such works would be aimed at improving the relationship between the dwelling and the rear garden of No 6 Rectory Place. The objection indicates that only small branches will be cut back, however, the specification proposed as part of a recent section 211 notice would enable greater works to take place.
- 3.4 The TPO was made following receipt of a section 211 notice (Conservation Area Notification) proposing to reduce 16 branches by no more than 6m. This notice is attached to the TPO file (16/05390/TREE) and was received 23rd February 2016.
- 3.5 Further to a visual assessment adopting the TEMPO (Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders) scoring system, a new TPO was considered justified as the tree merited preservation. In summary, the tree was found to be in a good condition, with a suitable retention span and clearly visible to the public. The proposed works are considered excessive and would have a damaging impact upon the natural form and function of the tree.
- 3.6 The Order does not prevent future works from being carried out, but it requires that the Council's consent be gained prior to removing trees and prior to carrying out most forms of tree pruning. In assessing applications to remove trees or carry out pruning, the Council takes into account the reasons for the application, set alongside the effect of the proposed work on the health and amenity value of the trees.
- 3.7 Crown thinning works may be considered acceptable, but will need to be applied for as part of a separate application.
- 3.8 The TPO is valid for 6 months from the date the order was made. If the TPO is not confirmed within this period, the TPO will cease to exist.
- 3.9 Members are therefore respectfully requested to confirm the order without modifications.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy, Financial, Personnel, Legal
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	15/05390/TREE