

Council of the Isles of Scilly Delegated Planning Report

Application Number: P/20/058/TWA

Received on: 4 August 2020

UPRN: 000192002786

Application Expiry date: 15 October 2020

Neighbour expiry date: **NONE CONSULTED**

Consultation expiry date:

Site notice posted: 20 August 2020

Site notice expiry: 10 September 2020

Applicant: Mr C Crawford Duchy of Cornwall

Site Address: Land To South Of A3110

Tremelethen

St Mary's

Isles Of Scilly

Proposal: Remove deadwood and lift the crowns of approximately 65 Elm trees overhanging the South side of the main road to the west of Tremelethen Farm.

Application Type: Tree Works Applications

Recommendation

1. That NO TPO is made on the trees for the works proposed.
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Site Description and Proposed Development

This is an application to remove the deadwood and lift the crown of approximately 65 elm trees that overhang the road. The location of the trees line the road as it approaches Porth Helick House (north side of the road) and Tremelethen Farm (south side of the road). The trees are located on the south side of the road and form the north boundary of the field at Tremelethen Farm.

The trees are all Elm Trees and line the adopted highway, which is a narrow single carriage-way road, that is adopted as the A3110. The Duchy are seeking to remove deadwood and crown lift as much as is necessary for each tree to maintain a hazard free highway.

Consultations and Representations

Public Representations: NONE

Consultation Representations: NONE

Constraints:

Historic Landscape Character: Landscape Type: Farmland: bulb strips, late C19/C20. Landscape Type: Farmland: anciently enclosed land (prehistoric to early post-medieval)

Tree Assessment

The trees are protected by the Conservation Area designation which covers the entire Isles of Scilly. Prior to any person undertaking tree pruning or felling works they are required to serve Notice 211 on the Council, allowing 6 weeks notification of any tree works to be carried out. This allows sufficient time for the Local Planning Authority to assess the appropriateness of the works proposed and determine whether a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is required, that would essentially permit the use of restrictive conditions on any works proposed. It also ensures that adequate (and qualified) justification is submitted to support the works, particularly in cases of tree removal, where the works are deemed to have harmful impact upon the amenity value they hold and any importance to the character of the conservation area.

It is noted that previously the LPA has resisted 'harsh' pruning of trees of 'street' elm trees, particularly in the Old Town area. Whist pollarding has been permitted in and around Old Town, this is largely on the basis that the trees close in either domestic boundary settings or grow close to buildings. The trees in this application are not situated in a domestic setting but it is not proposed to 'pollard' the elm trees, only to remove dead wood and crown lift sufficiently above the carriageway.

The trees are native Elm Trees that have a high degree of amenity value within this rural area. It is acknowledged however that the trees are large with many overhanging the road to a degree that could interfere with highway safety. Additionally, the character of the wider Conservation Area, which is designated on the basis of seeking to protect the historic built environment, is enhanced by the presence of mature trees, particularly the mature elm trees. Whilst this area does not include a high number of historic buildings, the setting is such that it is an historic landscape that is very much enhanced by the presence of mature elm trees along the roadside. Overall, given that essential works appear to be required to remove deadwood and minimize hazards for highway users as a result of falling or low-hanging boughs and branches, the works are considered appropriate in this case and would be in the interests of the long-term management of these trees. On this basis the works are considered acceptable without the need to designate a TPO.

Print Name: Lisa Walton

Job Title: Senior Officer, Planning and Development Management

Signed:



29/09/2020

Authorised Officer with Delegated Authority to determine Planning Applications
