

**APPEALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE
17TH NOVEMBER 2020**

Report of the Head of Strategic Support

ITEM 6 BOROUGH OF CHARNWOOD (THE VICARAGE 52 MAIN STREET COSSINGTON) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2020

The above Order relates to two individual trees T1 Sycamore and T2 Norway Maple and a group of trees (G1) as detailed in the Order situated at the above site.

The Council's Head of Planning and Regeneration considers that the trees make a significant contribution to the visual amenity of the area and the approach to the Church of All Saints. A S211 Notice P/20/1174/2 was received seeking to undertake a range of works including *inter alia* the removal of understory trees and crown reduction of intermediate sized trees. The vicarage gardens form part of the approach to the Church of All Saints, a grade II* listed building. It is considered that the tree belt along the southern boundary of the property is an important landscape feature for the setting of the church. In all, 18 of 31 trees or tall woody shrubs are marked for removal. In particular the removal of 3 yews and all the holly is considered adverse and unwarranted. In addition to this, further work is proposed to reduce the remaining yew trees. Collectively the amount of works proposed would have a cumulative effect on this characteristic of the understory layer. It should be borne in mind that yew and holly trees have been associated with churches and their surrounding going back to ancient times. Therefore, the Head of Planning and Regeneration considers it is appropriate to ensure that the trees are properly protected and retained in a satisfactory manner through the making of a Tree Preservation Order.

Therefore, an Order was made on 17th August 2020 to provisionally protect the trees.

A copy of the Order is attached at **Annex 1**.

An objection to the Order was received on 11th September 2020 from the owner of the site.

A copy of the objection is attached at **Annex 2**.

The Head of Planning and Regeneration's comments on the issues raised in the objection are attached at **Annex 3**.

The Committee is asked to consider the issues raised by the objector and the comments of the Head of Planning and Regeneration in accordance with the procedure set out and to determine whether or not the Tree Preservation Order should be confirmed and, if so, whether with or without modification.

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