Agenda Item 8

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Report

Report subject: Tree Preservation Order 381, Dinton Recreation Ground

Report to: Western Area Committee

Date: 5th October 2006 **Author:** Shane Verrion

Purpose of Report:

This item is before Members to consider TPO381 which has been the subject of an objection.

Background:

TPO381 was made on the 30th June 2006 after an application was received to fell the Beech tree next to the pavilion. This tree is referred to under the order as T1.

Ten other trees on the Recreation Ground, are also protected by the order, because they were considered to be of high amenity value.

Objection:

An objection has been received regarding the inclusion of Beech (T1). The objection raises 3 separate concerns:

- the crown of the tree is currently only a meter from the roof of the pavilion.
- the proximity of the roots to the existing building and the possibility that they could cause damage.
- that planning permission has already been granted to extend the pavilion, by 2.5 meters, and that this could not be achieved without removing the tree.







Comments on objection:

Planning Permission was granted to extend the building in 2001 under application S/2001/1011. The permission is considered to have commenced and is therefore still valid. However, the permission did not specify the construction details so it is conceivable that a method could be used that would permit the extension to be built, whilst retaining the tree.

The roots of the Beech tree are unlikely to cause damage to the structure of the pavilion provide the foundations are in sound condition and, if it becomes necessary, the tree could be sympathetically pruned to prevent damage to the roof.

Conclusion:

The trees on the Recreation Ground are still relatively young, but they are generally in good health, and have high amenity value.

To lose even one of the trees would detract from the park scene and would open up the view to the houses on St Mary's Road from other areas of the village.

An application has been received to fell Beech (T1), since the preservation order has been put in place (ref. S/2006/1471). This application was refused because the Beech was of good form and had a dense crown and it formed part of the leafy character of the village. It was felt its loss would detract from the visual amenity of the area.

Another application has also been received to extend the pavilion, further towards Beech tree (T1). The application (ref. S2006/1558) was refused because it necessitated the removal of the Beech tree, which was protected by this Tree Preservation Order.

Options for consideration:

Members should decide whether to confirm the order to make it permanent.

Members have the following options:

- a) Confirm Tree Preservation order 381
- b) Not confirm Tree Preservation order 381.

Costs: None

Recommendations:

That Tree Preservation Order 381 should be confirmed to ensure that all the trees on the Recreation Ground are retained and protected.

Background Papers:

None

Other Representations:

1 objection received - see report.

Implications:

Financial: NoneLegal: NonePersonnel: None

Community Safety: None

Wards Affected: Fonthill and Nadder