
PLANNING (TREES) SUB-COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 2nd November, 2021

Present: Councillor Melissa Fisher (in the Chair),
Councillors June Harrison (substituting for Eamonn Higgins) , Terry Hurn
and Caroline Montague

Apologies Councillors: Judith Addison and Eamonn Higgins

162 Apologies for Absence, Substitutions, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Eamonn Higgins. Councillor June Harrison acted as his substitute. Apologies were also received from Councillor Judith Addison who arrived after the closure of the meeting, due to public transport difficulties.

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

163 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last Planning (Trees) Sub-Committee held on the 22nd July 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

Resolved – That the minutes be received and approved as a correct record.

164 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Tree Preservation Order(s)

The Chief Planning and Transportation Officer submitted a report in respect of Application 11/21/0395 – an application to undertake works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order W1 – 1997 / 3 Shop Lane, Broad Oak.

The application had been provided to the Sub-Committee because the applicant worked for the Council.

The applicant was seeking to remove a number of branches from trees adjacent to their house at 43 Manchester Road, Accrington, BB5 2BW. The protected trees were in close proximity to the southern gable end of the house. The proximity and scale of the trees was such that they resulted in loss of light to the windows, and in places, branches were leaning on the gutters and roof.

The recommendation was that consent be granted to remove overhanging branches from the protected trees up to the boundary, subject to a number of informatives being included in the decision letter.

The Chair enquired about whether any such works had been undertaken before. The Chief Planning and Transportation Officer was not aware of any such previous works and it was understood that the applicant had not lived at that address for very long. The Chair also asked about whether the use of a qualified contractor was monitored. Officers responded that advice about using appropriately qualified contractors was provided in the informatives, but the applicant's engagement of contractors was not normally monitored.

There were no concerns about the likelihood of harm arising from the work, as this was essentially to remove overhanging branches only.

The trees were part of a protected woodland and there were other individual Tree Preservation Orders in force in the vicinity also.

Resolved – That consent be granted to remove overhanging branches from the protected trees up to the boundary, subject to the informatives, as outlined in the report, being included in the decision letter.

Signed:.....

Date:

Chair of the meeting
At which the minutes were confirmed