

Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order

LAND AT AUDLEY PUMPING STATION, NANTWICH ROAD, AUDLEY TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 220 (2022)

Town & Country Planning Act 1990

Town & Country Planning (Tree Protection) (England) Regulations 2012

The Order protects trees within the grounds of Audley Pumping Station, Nantwich Road, Audley

The Order was made to safeguard the longer term visual amenity that the trees provide following concerns that some trees at this site may be felled.

The Order was made using delegated powers on 26th April 2022. Approval is sought for the Order to be confirmed with amendments.

The 6 month period for this Order expires on 25th October 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

That Tree Preservation Order No 220 (2022), Land at Audley Pumping Station, Nantwich Road, Audley be confirmed with amendments and that the owners of the site be informed accordingly.

Reasons for Recommendation

Your officers are of the opinion that the longer-term visual amenity of the trees is best secured by the making of a Tree Preservation Order. Your officers are of the opinion that the trees are generally healthy at present and of sufficient amenity value to merit the making of a Tree Preservation Order. They are considered to be appropriate species for the locality and provide public amenity value due to their form and visibility from public locations. The making of the Order will not prevent the owner from carrying out good management of the trees nor progressing any plans to develop the site, and it will give the Council the opportunity to control the works and prevent unnecessary cutting down, lopping, topping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction. The owner (or neighbours) will be able to apply for permission to carry out any maintenance work to the trees which is necessary to safely manage them.

Representations

One representation was received. The representation referred to a request made to the owner of the trees to trim the trees, information provided in the representation makes it clear that this person does not wish for the trees to be taken down.

Issues

The trees are situated in the grounds of Audley Pumping Station. The trees are mainly broadleaf and grow throughout the property.

The Order was made to safeguard the longer term visual amenity that the trees provide following concerns that some trees at this site may be felled.

They are mostly early mature and mature and are clearly visible from Nantwich Road, the adjacent public footpath (Audley 82), the adjacent cricket ground and cemetery.

In mid-April 2022 your officers inspected the trees on the site and found a large number of them to be worthy of an Order. They are considered to be in reasonable health, visually significant and an amenity to the locality, with the prospect of continuing to provide this for many years. The Order was made and served on 26th April 2022 in order to protect the long term well-being of the trees. Their loss would have a detrimental effect on the visual amenity, not only of the site but also to the locality.

The current provisional Order has been amended. Due to the large number and distribution of the trees on the site and the time available for making the provisional Order, the trees were categorised in the form of an 'Area' covering the entire site, so as to temporarily protect all of the trees. Since this was served a more detail survey has been carried out and the trees of poor quality and low amenity value have been omitted. The trees have now been categorised as 10 individuals and 3 groups, and the TPO schedule and plan revised accordingly.

Date report prepared

14th October 2022