

## **Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order**

### **LAND AT FORMER TADGEDALE QUARRY BETWEEN ECCLESHALL ROAD AND ROCK LANE, LOGGERHEADS**

**Tree Preservation Order number: TPO 221 (2023)**

Town & Country Planning Act 1990

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

#### **The Order protects trees within Land at former Tadgedale Quarry between Eccleshall Road and Rock Lane, Loggerheads**

Tree Preservation Order number: TPO 221 (2023)

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 damaged and lost.

The Order was made using delegated powers on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Approval is sought for the Order to be confirmed with amendments.

The 6 month period for this Order expires on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

The end of the 28 day statutory consultation period was 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Land at former Tadgedale Quarry between Eccleshall Road and Rock Lane, Loggerheads

Tree Preservation Order number: TPO 221 (2023) 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 of the 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**

During the consultation phase six representations were received.

Representation 1: Support for the Tree Preservation Order from neighbour

Representation 2: Support for the Tree Preservation Order from resident

Representation 3: Support for the Tree Preservation Order from neighbour

Representation 4: Representation from site owners Solicitors, requesting that the order be refined to comprise groups of trees and individual trees rather than an 'area' type order.

Representation 5: Representation from local tree surgeon supporting the Tree Preservation Order, expressing concern that some of the trees adjacent to the site were not covered by the order.

Representation 6: Representation from Loggerheads Parish Council in support of the Tree Preservation Order

### **Issues**

Representations requiring responses:

Response to representation 4:

The 'confirmed with amendments' order includes the refinement requested.

Response to representation 5:

Land to the south of Rock Lane is owned by Staffordshire County Highways. Trees owned and managed by the County Council are not considered under threat, and would not require protection through a Tree Preservation Order.

The trees are situated in the grounds of the former Tagedale Quarry between Eccleshall Road and Rock Lane. The trees grow throughout the site which is currently being developed for housing. The trees are visible from Eccleshall Road, Rock Lane and from the wider rural landscape setting. The trees are a significant feature and provide an important contribution to the area, their loss would have a detrimental effect on the visual amenity, not only of the site but also to the locality.

Requests for the Borough Council to consider protection from residents concerned about the damage caused to trees were received by neighbours and residents. There was concern that some of the trees would be felled and that the trees had not been properly protected throughout the construction phase of the development.

The trees are visible from Eccleshall Road, Rock Lane and from the wider rural landscape setting. The trees are a significant feature and provide an important contribution to the area, their loss would have a detrimental effect on the visual amenity, not only of the site but also to the locality.

The Order was made to safeguard the longer term visual amenity that the trees provide following a site visit where there were concern that some trees at this site may have been damaged.

In June 2023 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 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 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 individuals, and the TPO schedule and plan revised accordingly.

Date report prepared

14<sup>th</sup> October 2022