

Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: -

31st January 2006.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR REGENERATION

CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 19 OF 2005 ON LAND TO REAR OF 72-78 THORNHILL ROAD, STREETLY.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2005.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Confirm the Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2005 in unmodified form. A plan showing the Tree Preservation Order is attached to this report.
- (ii) Support the reason for making the Tree Preservation Order set out in paragraph 1.2.
- (iii) Note that one representation has been received in respect of this Tree Preservation Order.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Within Budget. In general, new Tree Preservation Orders generate additional applications for consent and increase officers' workload.

4. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Within Council policy.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The owners and future owners of this site will be required to apply for Council permission if they wish to fell or prune any tree protected by the Tree Preservation Order. Failure to do this renders anyone carrying out unauthorised works to trees liable to criminal proceedings.

6. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

NOT APPLICABLE

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The management of Walsall's tree cover through the administration of the Tree Preservation Order system has positive implications in protecting trees for their visual and environmental benefits. Removal of protected trees is often necessary because trees have a finite lifespan and may also cause nuisance or damage. In these instances the Council has to decide whether the removal of protected trees is justified. In the event that felling a tree is permitted, the Council can secure replacement planting to maintain tree cover.

8. WARD(S) AFFECTED

The Tree Preservation Order 19 of 2005 is located within the Streetly Ward.

9. **CONSULTEES**

Owners and near neighbours were sent copies of the Tree Preservation Order and invited to make representations to the Council in both opposition and support of this Tree Preservation Order. Any response is described within the report.

10. **CONTACT OFFICER**

Ian McDermott - Extension: 2449

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

File PD1/17/695 relating to Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2005.

Tim Johnson, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR REGENERATION

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CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 19 of 2005 ON LAND KNOWN AS 74 – 78 THORNHILL ROAD, STREETLY.

1.0 **REPORT DETAIL.**

- 1.1 The site which is the subject of this order was affected by the planning application 05/1265/FL/E5 for the demolition of the existing properties and the construction of six new ones, which would have resulted in the loss of amenity trees.
- 1.2 The Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2005 was made on 15th November 2005. The reasons given for the making of the Tree Preservation Order were as follows:
- The trees form a prominent landscape feature in the local area and will continue to provide an important item of landscape quality in the future.
- The trees add to the amenity and diversity of the immediate area.
- The Council's Unitary Development Plan identifies polices for protection of trees and green spaces
- 1.3 The minimum six week period allowed for objection to the Order expired on 27th December 2005. One response has been received from a local resident supporting the making of the Order
- 1.4 The Committee is therefore recommended to confirm Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2005 in unmodified form.

