



Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

28th June 2005

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR URBAN REGENERATION

CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER No.16 OF 2004 ON LAND BETWEEN BASLOW ROAD AND STAFFORD ROAD.

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek the confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order No 16 of 2004.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Confirm the Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 16 of 2004 in modified 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 support 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 – YES

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 16 of 2004 is located within Bloxwich East 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**

Gordon Dewdney - Extension: 2447

11. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Tim Johnson,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR URBAN REGENERATION

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LAND BETWEEN STAFFORD ROAD AND BASLOW ROAD, BLOXWICH,
WALSALL

1.0 **REPORT DETAIL.**

- 1.1 Officers received an anonymous phone call from a resident in Baslow Road who had been approached by developers to sell her bungalow in order to make an access for back-land development on the piece of land between Baslow Road and Stafford Road, Bloxwich. The caller was very concerned that her identity should not be made known. Upon inspecting the area in question, officers found that it was a small urban haven for wildlife and trees that the residents we spoke to all enjoyed. The trees provide a green backdrop to all the properties that border this piece of land, acting as an effective screen and providing shade and wildlife. An Emergency TPO was put in place covering the entire area which was believed to be under threat. Since then the trees have been inspected and only the principal specimens are included within this order.
- 1.2 The Tree Preservation Order No 16 of 2004 was made on 03/12/2004. The reason given for the making of the Tree Preservation Order was as follows:
- ‘the trees included in the Tree Preservation Order are visually prominent specimens which contribute to the visual amenity of the neighbourhood and provide environmental benefits’.
- 1.3 The minimum six week period allowed for objection to the Order expired on 14/01/2005. No responses have been received. One letter of support for this order has been received from Mr. and Mrs. Scandrett of 23 Baslow Road, citing environmental and amenity benefits.
- 1.4 The Committee is therefore recommended to confirm Tree Preservation Order No 16 of 2004 in modified form.

Baslow Road, Stafford Road Bloxwich



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Date 3/6/2005

G Dewdney