



Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

28th June 2005

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR URBAN REGENERATION

CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 19 OF 2004 ON TREES IN HIGHLAND ROAD AND BLUEBELL ROAD.

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek the confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2004.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Confirm the Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2004 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 no representations have 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 – 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 19 of 2004 is located within Aldridge North and Walsall Wood.

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

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

28/06/2005

CONFIRMATION OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 19 OF 2004 ON
TREES IN BLUEBELL ROAD AND HIGHLAND ROAD, WALSALL.

1.0 **REPORT DETAIL.**

- 1.1 A contractor known to the council contacted the tree officers to alert them to inappropriate pruning works to mature oak trees in Highland Road which had been requested of him. He suggested that these trees might benefit from a Tree Preservation Order as they feature highly in the street scene. Upon inspection it was found that there was an entire avenue of oak trees which run the length of Highland and Bluebell Road which were not protected. The age of the trees and amenity they afford to the surrounding area makes them desirable for retention and protection so that the council can monitor and control any future pruning works.
- 1.2 The Tree Preservation Order No 19 of 2004 was made on 22/12/2004. 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 02/02/05. No responses have been received.
- 1.4 The Committee is therefore recommended to confirm Tree Preservation Order No. 19 of 2004 in unmodified form.

Nos. 1,3 and 7 High Land Road and 34, 36, 38 and 46 Bluebell Road, Walsall Wood

