

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 23 MAY 2012

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

6. TREE PRESERVATION ORDER (TPO) – RESURVEY OF TPO NOS 49, 167, 171 AND 345

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Bishop's Stortford Meads, Datchworth and Aston, Hertford Heath and Thundridge and Standon.

Purpose/Summary of Report

- The resurvey of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) no.s 49, 167, 171 and 345 as identified by the Arboricultural Officer.
- The request for the new replacement TPOs no.s 566, 567, 568 and 569 to be confirmed.
- The request for TPOs no.s 49, 167, 171 and 345 to be revoked.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE:

That:

(A)	TPOs numbered 566, 567, 568 and 569 be confirmed; and
(B)	TPOs numbered 49, 167, 171 and 345 be revoked.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 it is the Local Planning Authority's (East Herts Council) statutory duty to review the TPOs we hold and to maintain them so that they are robust documents relevant to the built form of the neighbourhood and location.
- 1.2 Trees are organic structures and their condition and amenity value is subject to change overtime. The built environment of the district is also developing and our TPO documents need to reflect these changes and continue to protect our important trees.
- 1.3 The TPOs we currently hold have been reviewed by the Council's Arboricultural Officer and those included within this report have been resurveyed and re-served. For this resurvey the Council sought advice from an external Arboricultural Specialist.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 The TPOs we hold at the Council require reviewing and updating as the information held within them is either out dated, inaccurate, difficult to decipher or no longer relevant. Working with these documents consumes the Council's resources unnecessarily and can increase response times to customer enquiries.
- 2.2 TPOs are public documents that have a direct impact on the actions property/land owners can take on their own property therefore, ensuring they are relevant and clearly understood is very important.
- 2.3 Following a review of the TPOs the Council holds, a number were identified for resurvey. The resurvey assessed the amenity value of the trees within these TPOs using an evaluation based scoring method, the Tree Evaluation method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) system (see a sample TEMPO assessment, background paper 1). This enabled only the trees that scored a high rating to be identified for protection under the TPO legislation. Those trees identified were formed into the newly served TPOs.
- 2.4 This report includes four TPOs that have been resurveyed using the process described. The new TPO details have been served on the appropriate properties. See below a table indentifying the new TPOs to be confirmed and the TPOs to be revoked:

Table 1: The Tree Preservation Orders recommended in this report for Revoking and Confirming

New TPO details for those recommended to be confirmed	Current TPO details for those recommended to be revoked
TPO 566 (No.2) 2012 'Wrights Orchard, Aston'	TPO 49 1972 'Brookfield Land, Aston'
TPO 567 (No.3) 2012 'Hailey Lodge and Harlings, Hertford Heath'	TPO 167 (No.7) 1978 'Harling and Hailey Lodge, Hertford Heath, Great Amwell'
TPO 568 (No.4) 2012 'Stansted Road, Bishop's Stortford'	TPO 171 (No.13) 1978 'Stansted Road, Bishop's Stortford'
TPO 569 (No.5) 2012 'Saffron Meadow, Standon'	TPO 345 (No.13) 1994 'Middleton School (formerly Hillside School), South Road, Standon'

2.5 It is recommended the TPOs identified in the table above be confirmed and revoked as listed.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

1. Sample TEMPO assessment sheet.
2. The Tree Preservation Order a Guide to the Law and Good Practice.
3. TPO 567 – amended First Schedule and TPO Map.

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