

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director Partnerships, Planning and Policy	Development Control Committee	11 January 2011

OBJECTION TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO.6(WHITTLE-LE-WOODS) 2010

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to decide whether or not to confirm the above Tree Preservation Order (TPO) with or without modification in light of the objection received

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That Tree Preservation Order No. 6 (Whittle-le-Woods) 2010 be confirmed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. The purpose of this report is to decide whether to confirm the above Tree Preservation Order with or without modification. The Order was placed on the trees following tree felling in the local area by speculative developers.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

4. It is recommended that the Order be confirmed as there is evidence that the trees may be under threat of removal due to tree felling in the local area and this would result in trees which have a amenity value being lost.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

5. The Council could have decided not to protect the trees and allowed them to be felled by a speculative developer. However, this would have meant that mature trees which have amenity value would have been lost.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	X
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	

BACKGROUND

7. The trees stand within the rear garden of the property known as Greenways which is vacant following the death of the owner. Given the potential threat to trees which contribute to the visual amenity of the area it was considered expedient to make a tree preservation order.

OBJECTION

8. A letter of objection has been received from solicitors acting on behalf of the trustees of the property. The objection is made on the grounds that that the protection of the trees is not in the public interest because surrounding land is in private control therefore the trees cannot be seen from land to which the public have access. In addition that the trees do not have amenity value due to screening from surrounding trees.

Whilst the access road leading to the property is under private control there is a golf course to the rear of the property from which the trees can be seen. Although it is a private golf club members and their guests are also members of the public and this would also extend to the occupiers of the neighbouring local residential properties. Longer distances views of the trees within the landscape can also be seen from the Buckshaw development.

Whilst there is significant tree cover in the area and to a degree the trees are screened by others non the less their contribution adds to the amenity of this woodland area.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

9. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	X

Lesley Anne Fenton
Director Partnerships, Planning and Policy

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Peter Willacy	5226	21 December 2010	

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Chorley Council Tree Preservation Order No. 6 (Whittle-le-Woods)	April 2010	TPO No. 6 (Whittle-le-Woods)	Civic Offices, Union Street