

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Partnership, Planning and Policy	Development Control Committee	11 June 2013

## **OBJECTION TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER No.3 (Hoghton) 2013**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to decide whether or not to confirm the above Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. That Tree Preservation Order No.3 (Hoghton) 2013 be confirmed.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT**

3. The purpose of this report is to decide whether to confirm the above Tree Preservation Order. The Order was placed on the site following an enquiry from the owner regarding felling of the tree.

<b>Confidential report</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<b>No</b>
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### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

4. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy communities	X	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	

### **BACKGROUND**

5. This objection relates to an Oak tree located to the front of a residential property now known as Woodhaven, The Straits, Hoghton. The property was previously known as Shandra. The property owner contacted the Council to give notification of his intention to fell the tree, and to request written confirmation that this would be authorised. Further to this correspondence it was considered expedient to protect the tree, which forms a prominent feature on The Straits, and an order was made on that basis.
6. A Tree Preservation Order was made on the grounds that the tree makes a valuable contribution to the visual amenity of the area, being prominently situated and clearly visible to the public. Its removal would have a significant impact on the environment and its enjoyment by the public.

## OBJECTION

7. A letter of objection has been received from the owner of the property on the grounds that the tree restricts the vision of traffic approaching from the direction of Preston to the west, from vehicles exiting the driveway at Woodhaven. It is suggested that this lack of visibility combined with a speed limit of 50mph along The Straits results in a dangerous situation.
8. In response to this specific objection a Lancashire County Council Highways Engineer carried out a site visit and subsequently stated that if the necessary care is taken when exiting the drive the tree does not unduly effect visibility and as such Lancashire County Council Highways cannot request that the tree preservation order be removed.
9. In order to assess the health and quality of the tree prior to any confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order the Council's tree officer carried out a site visit. The officer concluded that the tree is a mature Oak and is in good condition. The officer stated that the tree makes a significant contribution to the landscape, is a good example of a mature oak, and is worthy of protecting.

## IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

Finance	X	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	X	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area	X	Policy and Communications	

## COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

11. None.

## COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

12. None.

Lesley-Ann Fenton  
Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Iain Crossland	5903	22 May 2013	***

OR

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Chorley Borough Council Tree Preservation Order No.3 (Hoghton)	05 February 2013	TPO No.3 (Hoghton) 2013	Union Street Offices