DELEGATED REPORT

Recommendation Made: 12 April 2011

Reference:- 10/00886/TPO **Parish:- Hinckley**

Applicant:- Mrs Claire Louise Coape-Arnold
10 Brodick Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 0TX

Location:- 10 Brodick Road Hinckley Leicestershire LE10 0TX

Proposal:- WORKS TO TWO OAK TREES (T6 AND T7 ON TPO)

Introduction:-

This application seeks approval to carry out works to two protected Oak trees to the rear of 10 Brodick Road, Hinckley. The applicant lives at No. 10 Brodick Road, however the trees are actually situated within the neighbouring gardens of No. 4 Brodick Road and No. 6 Lawton Close. The trees are protected under the Hinckley (Clifton Way) Tree Preservation Order 1976 and are identified as T6 and T7 on the Order.

The proposed works are unclear. The description on the application form relates "to the removal of 3 bows altogether" however no specific information is provided to clearly identify the tree to which this relates. The arboricultural report submitted in support of the application refers to substantial die back on three bows overhanging the garden of No. 10 Brodick Road, but again it is not specific enough to clearly identify the individual trees to which the works relate. The description also refers to a large hollow at the base of the tree located in the garden of No. 6 Lawton Close, but this is not referred to in the report from the arboriculturalist.

Additional information was initially requested to specify the exact nature of the works, however no further details have been submitted.

History:-

None relevant.

Consultations:-

The Borough Council's Arboriculturalist has responded with concerns to the unspecified works and confirms that the hollow in the base of one of the trees is not structurally significant. He confirms that neither of the trees are dying but that there are dead and broken branches present within the trees that can be removed without the need for consent; however, if live branches are to be removed, further clarification is required to the specific works for each tree. Refusal has been recommended.

Development Plan Policies:-

No Policies.

Appraisal:-

The main considerations in the determination of this application are the health and visual amenity of the protected Oak trees.

It is considered that the proposal be refused on the basis of the lack of information and clarification supplied within the application submission with regard to the specific works proposed to each tree. The detailed information is required to ensure the health and visual amenity of these important trees are maintained. An application to carry out some general maintenance work may be looked on more favourably, should it be supported by a detailed and specified description of works and professional arboricultural advice.

The application is therefore recommended for refusal.

Recommendation:- Refuse Consent to carry out work to tree(s) protected by a Tree Preservation Order for the following reasons:-

Reasons :-

1 In the opinion of the Local Planning Authority and on the basis of the lack of information submitted the unspecified works could result in a detrimental impact on both the health and visual amenity of these important protected trees.

Contact Officer:- Debbie Phillips Ext 5603