DELEGATED REPORT

Recommendation Made: 22 April 2009

Reference:- 09/00148/TPO **Parish:- Hinckley**

Applicant:- Mr Nigel Whittle
10 Arguile Place
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 0GH

Location:- 10 Arguile Place Hinckley Leicestershire LE10 0GH

Proposal:- WORKS TO SYCAMORE TREE

Introduction:-

This application seeks approval to remove some of the higher branches of the Sycamore tree to reduce the Crown. The applicant has also suggested that if we were to look favourably on it, he would like to the tree removed and he would replace it with a smaller tree.

Consultations:-

The Borough Council's Tree Officer has recommended felling the tree would not be acceptable, also that to reduce the Crown would not be acceptable. He has recommended that work be limited to the removal of the three lowest branches to raise the Crown and that some Crown thinning would also be acceptable.

Development Plan Policies:-

No Policies.

Appraisal:-

After visiting the site and from reviewing the Tree Officer's recommendations, I am going to approve the application limiting works to those suggested by him. The applicant has contacted me and I have explained the situation. The application will be approved with the following conditions.

1 Works are limited to the removal of the three lower branches to raise the Crown and the thinning of the Crown by up to 30% only to reduce the density.

2 All works shall be carried out in accordance with British Standards - 3998 'Works to Trees'.

Reasons :-

1 To maintain the health and shape of the tree.

2 To ensure that the works are carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Notes to Applicant:-

1 Bats, nesting birds, great crested newts and certain other species are protected by law. If any such species are discovered before or during the works the works must be suspended and the local office of Natural England contacted for advice.

2 This permission does not convey the authority to enter on to land not in the ownership of the applicant.

3 Please be aware that the term 'Crown thinning' does not give permission for the reduction of the height of the Crown.

Contact Officer:- Debbie Bates Ext 5603