DELEGATED REPORT

Recommendation Made: 20 July 2011

Reference:- 11/00483/TPOCA **Parish:- Higham On The Hill Parish Council**

Applicant:- Mr Denis Bower
5 Barr Lane
Higham On The Hill
Nuneaton
Leicestershire

Location:- 5 Barr Lane Higham On The Hill Nuneaton Leicestershire CV13 6AN

Proposal:- REMOVAL OF FIR TREE

Introduction:-

This application seeks approval for the removal of a fir tree located at No. 5 Barr Lane, Higham on the Hill.

The tree is situated on the front boundary behind a low boundary wall, along with some further trees of a similar species and height. The tree is not protected by a Preservation Order but does lie within the Higham on the Hill Conservation Area.

The applicant wishes to remove the tree due to it's close proximity to the boundary wall and neighbouring fence and also because of it's position over a storm drain, but wishes to replace it with a smaller ornamental species.

History:-

08/00435/TPOCA Removal of Tree Approved 03.06.2008

Consultations:-

At the time of writing the report no comments have been received from:-

Higham Parish Council
Ward Members.

Development Plan Policies:-

No Policies.

Appraisal:-

The main considerations in the determination of this application are the visual amenity of the tree and it's impact on the Conservation Area.

Although the tree is visually prominent and located on the front boundary of the site, it is not considered that the loss of this specimen would have a detrimental impact on the character or setting of the Conservation Area. The application is therefore recommended for approval.

Recommendation:- No objection to work to tree(s) within Conservation Area subject to the following conditions:-

Notes to Applicant:-

1 It is a criminal offence to damage or destroy a bat roost. Therefore, if the tree is mature and has hollow cavities and / or is covered with ivy, or has suitable places in which bats might roost, we recommend that it be surveyed for bats before any work is carried out to the tree. All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act. We recommend that work to trees is done outside the bird-nesting season - i.e between the end of August and beginning March. If work to the tree is to be undertaken during the bird breeding season, we recommend that a suitably qualified ecologist surveys the tree for nesting birds. If nesting birds are present, work must be postponed until the young have left the nest.

Contact Officer:- Debbie Phillips Ext 5603