

Jane Steel

From: Nigel Palmer <info@marketbosworthsociety.com>
Sent: 03 September 2024 14:55
To: Planning Folder New
Subject: Market Bosworth Conservation Area - Loss of Mature Trees.

For the Attention of Sophie Iliffe.

Dear Sophie

I am writing to you as several of my members have raised concerns about the gradual loss of trees within the Market Bosworth Conservation Area. It appears that many trees are felled as the decision is not to protect the tree by applying a Tree protection Order. Whilst the tree itself may not be a particularly valuable specimen or a rare specimen it must be considered in context. A good example is the Wyche Elm recently considered under reference 24/00555/TCA.

In response to being consulted the Market Bosworth Society offered the following:
We have carefully considered the documents and images in connection with this application. We are quite concerned at the extent of the works proposed. If permitted it will have a seriously detrimental effect upon the street scene.

The application does not detail any health reason for the tree to be felled. However, whilst it is a pleasant experience to walk along Rectory Lane to the Country Park, shaded by this tree, we do recognise the danger inherent with a large bough above the carriageway.

Whilst we wish to object to this work we would support a reduction to the crown of the tree. Having looked at the images it should be perfectly possible to reduce the bough overhanging the carriageway and bring the tree back within the boundary of the grounds of The Old Rectory. Whilst this may be just one tree, the community has lost several mature and vintage trees recently and efforts should not be spared to protect these valued assets.

In summary, we object most strongly to the works proposed but would support a more limited crown reduction.

Market Bosworth Society Statutory Consultees.

Paul Grundy Conservation Officer offered:

The tree proposed for felling forms part of a cluster of trees at the front of the Old Rectory site that contribute to the amenity of Rectory Lane, all of which are prominent in the street scene. In my opinion the tree makes a positive contribution to the amenity of the area including the Market Bosworth Conservation Area. After review of the submitted documentation there doesn't appear to be any justification provided for the proposed felling of the tree. It is however noted that it does overhang the carriageway of the Lane so can alternatives to felling be considered, such as removal of branches overhanging the lane and re-shaping of the tree. Further advice on this proposal should therefore be sought from the Council's Tree Officer (if available) with alternative works considered and a determination made as to whether the tree warrants protection via a Tree Preservation Order

Paul Grundy Conservation Officer

The relevant points being that the tree was a valuable asset, was not diseased or dangerous and could have been reshaped by pruning. Instead, the decision was not to offer the tree protection and therefore it could be

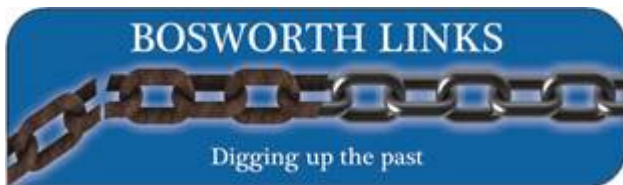
felled. This will leave a substantial gap in the canopy above Rectory Lane. Not only is this detrimental to the street scene the loss of the tree affects the character area adversely.

We would like to understand the process for considering if a tree should be protected. If the context is considered and the effect upon the area.

There will undoubtedly be more attempts to fell trees in Market Bosworth some will be within the Conservation Area and we would wish to understand how decisions are made and how best to provide information to support the decision makers.

Thank you.

Nigel Palmer
Chairman
Market Bosworth Society.



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