DELEGATED REPORT

Recommendation Made:

Reference:- **09/00097/TPOCA** **Parish:-** **Desford Parish Council**

Applicant:- **Desford Parish Council**
16 Cambridge Drive
Desford
Leicestershire
LE9 9JB

Location:- **Pickard Recreation Ground Cottage Lane Desford Leicester Leicestershire**

Proposal:- **WORKS TO TREES.**

Introduction:-

This application seeks the approval for maintenance works to 17 trees to help maintain the appearance of the area.

Consultations:-

There have been responses received from: -

Our conservation officer has responded saying that he has no comments to make on the application.

The Local Planning Authorities Arboriculturlist has responded saying that he met with the Chairman and Clerk of Desford Parish Council and recommended the changes to the prescribed tree surgery works. The only specified work that still needs to be amended is T3 Betula pendula (Silver birch). Removing the top and low branches would not be acceptable. I have advised that further investigation of the cavity is required and a full risk assessment completed. If decay extends beyond 7% of the stem diameter, felling and replacement planting would be the better option.

Development Plan Policies:-

No Policies

Appraisal:-

The trees are in need of some maintenance work and the proposed work will be beneficial to the trees and the surrounding area.

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.

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:- Joanne Orton Ext 5666