

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 7 OCTOBER 2010
title: TREE PRESERVATION ORDER – BENTLEA ROAD, GISBURN
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
principal author: COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To ask Committee to ratify the making of a Tree Preservation Order to protect a Sycamore tree growing on land affected by a planning application.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – To make people's lives safer and healthier – protecting trees helps to safeguard the natural environment.
- Community Objectives – Safeguarding local and visual amenity.
- Corporate Priorities – To maintain the environmental quality of Ribble Valley.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 A planning application has been made for the development of land at Bentlea Road, Gisburn.

3 ISSUES

3.1 A prominent mature Sycamore tree was not recorded on the plans submitted with the planning application.

3.2 Trees are a material factor when determining a planning application [see Appendix 1 Tree Evaluation Method For Tree Preservation Orders].

3.3 The tree in question is a large Sycamore, a species that has a useful biological life expectancy of 50 to 350 years.

3.4 The tree in question is a prominent tree considered to be of visual amenity value to the locality and having a useful life expectancy.

3.5 Prior to determination of the planning application it is considered expedient to make a Tree Preservation Order.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The Council is responsible for maintaining records of all Tree Preservation Orders within the district.

- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The Council is responsible for processing applications for tree work on trees included in Tree Preservation Orders.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – The Council’s reputation for safeguarding the natural environment will be enhanced.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Ratify the making of a Tree Preservation Order to protect a Sycamore tree on land at Bentlea Road, Gisburn.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1 None.

For further information please ask for David Hewitt, extension 4505.

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