

Committee: Development Control
Date: 12 October 2005
Agenda Item No: 7
Title: Tree Preservation Order No. 9/05 Fleur-de-lys Public House, Widdington
Author: B P Smeeden (01799) 510466

Introduction

1 This item seeks Members consideration of Tree Preservation Order No 9/05.

Background

- 2 Members will recall that at their meeting on 20 July 2005 it was resolved that an Acacia tree in the grounds of the Fleur-de-lys be protected.
- 3 A Tree Preservation Order was served on 21 July 2005.

Representations/objections

- 4 An objection to the serving of the Order has been made by the owner. The grounds of objection are summarised as follows:
1. The tree was only planted in the mid 1990's.
 2. It is "unreasonable that any third party should now be able to dictate to me how I operate and cultivate this private area of land".

Assessment

- 5 The tree has been inspected by the Council's Landscape Officer.
- 6 The Acacia tree is a relatively young specimen of some 7 metres in height with a well-formed crown and in vigorous health. Situated on open space fronting the High Street, the tree's position, habit and foliage colour is such that it is prominent in the street scene and contributes to the quality and fabric of the conservation area. Whilst the tree is a young specimen it is considered already to have significant amenity value in this location.
- 7 The power exercised by local planning authorities to make Tree Preservation Orders is contained in the Town and Country Planning Act. The protection of trees in the interests of amenity has for over 50 years remained an important part of the modern planning system.

RECOMMENDED that Tree Preservation Order No. 9/05, Fleur-de-lys Public House, Widdington be confirmed without amendment.