

**Committee: Planning**

**Agenda Item**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

**5**

**Title: Application for consent to carry out works to trees at The Delles Great Chesterford subject to UDC tree preservation order No.1/75**

**Author: Ben Smeeden  
Landscape Officer**

Item for decision

### **Summary**

1. This item seeks the Committee's consideration of proposed felling of 7no. beech trees in the grounds of The Delles, Carmen Street, Great Chesterford. The trees are subject to UDC tree preservation order No. 1/75.

### **Recommendations**

2. Consent is granted for the proposed tree felling subject to conditions:

Prior to any felling of trees on the site a scheme of replacement tree planting to be submitted to the local planning authority for approval in writing. The approved scheme of tree planting shall be fully implemented during the first planting season (Oct -March) following felling.

Reason: The reason for applying this condition is to maintain tree cover in the interests of visual amenity.

### **Financial Implications**

1. None

### **Background Papers**

2. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

UTT/13/0413/TPO application.

### **Impact**

- 3.

Communication/Consultation	Details of application entered on register of TPO applications.
Community Safety	none

Equalities	none
Health and Safety	none
Human Rights/Legal Implications	none
Sustainability	none
Ward-specific impacts	The Chesterfords
Workforce/Workplace	none

## Situation

4. An application for consent to fell 7no. beech trees situated in the grounds of The Delles has been received (Appendix 1: Plan showing trees proposed to be felled). The reasons given by the applicant for seeking to fell the trees are that they are in poor condition and pose a risk.
5. The beech trees have been inspected by the Council's Landscape Officer and were found to be mature specimens in poor general health having a range of significant defects including areas of extensive decay, crown dieback, and branch failure. There is a risk of a major failure occurring to any of these trees if they are retained. There is no remedial surgery which would allow the trees to be satisfactorily retained in the medium or long term.

## Risk Analysis

6.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
In the circumstances of the application being refused any loss or damage directly resulting from the decision may result in a claim for compensation being made against the Council =2.	The poor condition of the trees makes the likelihood of a failure high = 3.	Injury or death may result give rise to a compensation claim against the Council =3.	Applicant is advised that works to trees which are dead or dangerous do not require the express consent of the Council.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

Appendix 1: Plan showing trees proposed to be felled.

