

**Committee:** Planning

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 15 October 2014

**7**

**Title:** Application to fell 1 Walnut Tree at 53  
Landscape View, Saffron Walden

**Author:** Andrew Taylor, Assistant Director Planning and Building Control

Item for decision

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## Summary

1. This item seeks the Committee's consideration of a proposal to fell 1 Walnut tree in the grounds of 53 Landscape View Saffron Walden. The applicant is the District Council ward member for Ashdon.
2. The reasoning given is the trees size and its dominance within the garden, there was no evidence of any safety issues which are present. A separate application was submitted to undertake pruning works (UTT/14/2748/TPO).

## Recommendations

3. It is recommended the application to fell is refused.

## Financial Implications

4. None.

## Background Papers

5. 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/14/2749/TPO

## Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	Details of the decision to be entered on to the public register of TPO applications.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal	None

Implications	
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	Saffron Walden Audley
Workforce/Workplace	None

## Situation

7. The tree is visible from the front of the property and footway. The tree is clearly visible from the public highway and not just immediate neighbours. The visibility of the tree to the general public is an important factor in the assessment of the tree's significance in the local environment.
8. The tree appears in reasonable health and condition when viewed from the footway to the front and side of the property. No indication or evidence has been received from the applicant that consent is required to remediate any defects.
9. The tree is a mature walnut of significant proportions which dominates the rear garden. It is a prominent visual feature and of high amenity value. The Inspector in the appeal in 2013 concurred with this assessment and the Decision Notice is attached as Appendix 1.
10. The application to fell is unjustified as the tree has no notable defects and is not causing any actionable nuisance or damage.

## Risk Analysis

11.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
1	1	1	None

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.

