

Committee: Planning

Agenda Item

Date: 8th April 2015

6

Title: UTT/15/0412/TCA

Notification of intent to remove 4no. branches of 1no. sycamore tree within a conservation area at Saffron Walden Castle. Museum Street, Saffron Walden.

Author: Ben Smeeden- Landscape Officer

Item for decision

Summary

1. This item seeks the Committee's consideration of the proposed removal of 4no. branches of a sycamore tree within a conservation area at Saffron Walden Castle. The notification has been made by the Council's Surveyor.

Recommendation

2. No objection is raised to the proposed removal of 4no. branches of the sycamore tree overhanging the castle wall.

Financial Implications

3. *The cost of the proposed tree works will be met within existing budgetary provisions.*

Background Papers

4. 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/15/0412/TCA and ECC arboricultural reported dated 16th March 2015.

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	Weekly List.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None

Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

6. The sycamore tree is a well-formed mature specimen of some 15m in height, situated immediately adjacent and to the north of the castle ruins [Appendix 1.]. Parts of the canopy of the tree directly overhang a section of the castle wall [Appendix 2.]. Leaves and debris from these overhanging branches are having a detrimental affect on the fabric of the flint and rubble wall. The removal of 4no. overhanging branches would reduce the risk of further damage to this section of the wall.
7. The proposed works would not adversely affect the health of the sycamore tree, or result in a significant reduction in the visual amenity value of the tree and its contribution to the setting of the castle and this part of the conservation area

Risk Analysis

8.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
1. There are no risks associated with the recommendation	1. None	1. No impact	None

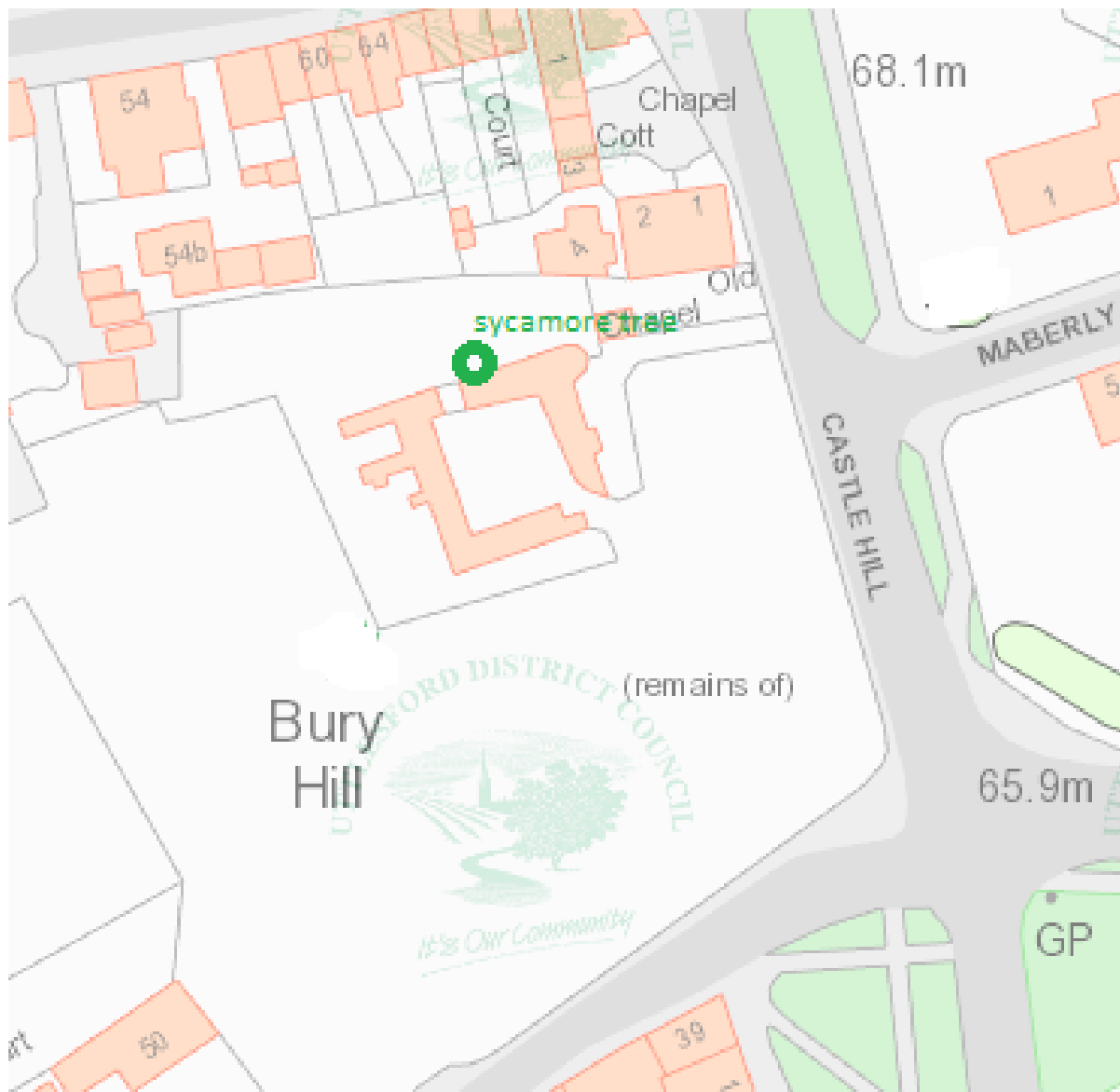
1 = Little or no risk or impact

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.

Appendix 1: Location plan



Appendix 2: Sycamore tree

