

38/2006/388T

MR & MRS GREGORY

APPLICATION TO CARRY OUT MANAGEMENT WORK TO ONE ELDER TREE INCLUDED IN TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH (TAUNTON NO.2) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2006 ON LAND BETWEEN SAVERY ROW AND HOLLAND MEWS (TD1008)

323549/124182 LOPPING OF TREE(S) COVERED BY TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

PROPOSAL

To cut three stems from the east side of this multi-stemmed elder down to 1.5 – 2 m, and to allow re-growth. The middle stem of the three is dead.

CONSULTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

THREE LETTERS OF OBJECTION have been received raising the following issues:- the canopy of the tree would be reduced significantly, with resulting decrease in screening between Holland Mews and Savery Row, and between Holland Mews and the proposed new house; it would be wrong to remove healthy branches if the proposed new house is not granted permission; it is not certain that there will be re-growth after the stems have been removed; the tree is protected by a TPO; the work is unnecessary and would be to the detriment of the tree's health; nesting birds would be disturbed.

ONE LETTER has been received requesting that work to the tree be delayed until a decision regarding Mrs Gregory's planning application for a new house on the site has been made by Taunton Deane.

ASSESSMENT

The three stems are overhanging the plot on the Savery Row side of the tree. The middle stem is dead. If the other two stems were removed, the width of the tree would be reduced but it would not be a significant reduction in its overall crown. It would continue to provide screening and wildlife habitat. It is known that elders tend to re-grow vigorously when pruned, and that coppicing is a traditional way of managing them and prolonging their lives.

The application has been assessed with a view to the applicant's proposal to build a new house on the site and to establish a new garden, which would include a native hedgerow on three sides and new tree planting (see application 38/2006/382)

RECOMMENDATION

Consent be GRANTED subject to conditions of time limit, British Standards. Notes re birds are protected.

In preparing this report the Planning Officer has considered fully the implications and requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998.

CONTACT OFFICER: 356493 MR D GALLEY (MON, TUES)

NOTES: