

TREE SURVEY AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

For proposed work in Thurlstone Conservation Area

- 1 Property: Providence Particular Baptist Chapel,
- 2 Location: Ingbirchworth Road, Thurlstone S36 9QN
Grid ref: Easting 423278 — Northing: 403787
- 3 Scheme: Planning application for widening the existing gate off Work Bank Lane to access parking for disabled persons.
- 4 Details: It appears that no trees in this site are subject to TPOs.
Mature trees fringe the site boundary alongside Ingbirchworth Road.
The vehicle entry off Work Bank Lane enters (at present) an area of scrub vegetation fringed on its east boundary by bushes and sycamore trees. The accompanying plan (1:100 scale) locates four of these trees, the bole diameters are of which are (T1)750mm, (T2) 140mm, (T3) 160mm and (T4) 130mm at 1500mm from ground level. Removal of these is sought in this application.

[A Planning Application for this Tree Work in a Conservation Area was submitted to the LPA 02-10-2023.]

All four sycamores are in reasonably healthy condition. The three smaller ones are shapeless specimens which could well have been seeded from the single large tree. As the desire is to remove all these trees, further detailed assessment has not been carried out.
- 5 Impact: Removal of the three smaller trees (T2–T4) could be considered as no loss to the ambience of the conservation area but would greatly benefit car manoeuvring within the site.

Removal of the fourth tree (750 dia) would impact views along Work Bank Lane, especially from the east. Conversely, its removal would benefit onsite car movement, would remove risk of root damage to the historic chapel structure and would improve daylight and sunlight for the properties on Matthew Gap.
- 6 Mitigation: The fact that there are mature trees fringing the site boundary along Ingbirchworth Road would disguise the loss of tree T1 in this quarter of the Conservation Area.

The chapel trustees would be willing to plant replacements for the trees they wish to be removed but it would seem that there is no space to accommodate such. As stated in the application the purpose of the tree removals is to give space for car manoeuvring to provide the sole possible access route for disabled persons into this public building. Small trees along the east boundary section involved might be feasible and the trustees would be very willing to discuss this with the LPA and follow out advice given.
- 7 LPA: I am very aware of the usefulness of pre-application discussion with LPA officers, particularly in relation to work in Conservation Areas.

I put in a *Tree preservation Order Enquiry* with details attached to Barnsley 1 September and received a reply the same day from Planning Enforcement asking me to contact your Forestry Officer. I emailed Ed (Jowett) the same day with notes, photos, drawings. I followed this up the same month with phone calls and left

messages but have received no replies. This is no criticism of Ed Jowett, *rather it is to support him in what appears to be his impossible position as a one-man tree team covering the entire Barnsley MBC area!*

Without the assurances one desires from pre-application consultation I felt I had to submit a planning application 2 October for tree work (to trees not subject to TPOs) in a conservation area. The Planning Portal seems to indicate that this serves as a Section 211 notice on Barnsley? If this is so, and no objection has been received from the LPA, it appears the trees could be felled 21 November i.e., six weeks after notice has been given? But obviously what one desires is reasonable consultation with help from yourselves and formal approval to any work undertaken.