

APPENDIX 2

Proposed New Tree Preservation Order No: 504 (2012)

Site: River Bank, River Lune, Caton

Location of Trees: x1 group of deciduous tree established to the southern river bank, near Holme Lane, Caton

Assessment:

I have assessed trees established along the southern bank of the River Lune, in an area to the north of Holme Lane, Caton. The assessment was carried out in relation to their suitability and the appropriateness of serving with a Tree Preservation Order.

The land is understood to be under the control of Caton Parish Council and it is currently used for agricultural grazing. It is also accessed by anglers for the purpose of fishing and walkers who can enjoy the rural location and public access along the riverside.

The trees in question form a linear belt along the southern bank of the river. They are entirely in keeping with the visual appearance and general character of the wider, rural landscape. The trees can be clearly seen from the public footpath and as landscape trees from a range of wider locations. They contribute to the visual setting of the River Lune. In addition, they make an important contribution to the control of erosion of the river bank as water levels inevitably rise and fall. Where trees are not present along the river the increased incidence of soil erosion is apparent. The trees also have significant potential to provide habitat, shade and shelter for a range of wildlife and protected species including nesting birds, and otters which are known to be within the area, also fish and their developing/maturing young.

For the purpose of this report and the proposed new tree preservation order the trees in question have been identified as **G1**, comprised of x19 willow trees, x8 ash, 2x alder and x2 elm. Ages range from semi-mature to mature. There are two willow trees not included within the order because of their poor overall condition, they do however make an important contribution as a wildlife resource because of this condition and should be retained as such.

Concerns have been expressed locally that some of the trees maybe removed, fragmenting the existing group. Fragmenting the group may lead to an increased susceptibility erosion and loss of the river bank as roots which currently help to stabilize the river bank would inevitably be lost. There would also be an adverse impact on the visual appearance of the riverbank in this location and a detrimental impact on the visual appearance of the wider landscape view and wildlife resources.

The amenity value of the trees has been assessed using a Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO). TEMPO Assessment Score: 14 – TPO defensible

Decision: To serve Tree Preservation Order no. 504 (2012) under sections 198 (201) and 203 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, in the interests of public amenity; affecting x1 group of trees comprised of x31 trees.

The trees in question have important amenity value and have become a significant landscape feature. They make an important contribution to the amenity and character of their

immediate vicinity and wider locality. They make an important contribution to the stability of the river bank and control of soil erosion, and are an important resource for wildlife.

Any tree works must be undertaken by a suitably competent, trained and experienced arborist and in line with BS 3998 (2010) Tree works – recommendations. Written agreement with the local planning authority must be obtained prior to undertaking any works to protected trees.

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