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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TREE WORKS IN A CONSERVATION AREA

Reference: H16-0882-26 **Date of Decision:** 23rd October 2026

Applicant: Mr P Hendry
2 Paddock Green
Spalding
PE11 1XN

Location: 2 Paddock Green Spalding

Description: Works to trees in Spalding Conservation Area

Detailed Description:

Notification to carry out works to two sycamore trees in the garden of 2 Paddock Green. Please see the plan accompanying the Notification for the position of the trees.

'This is an application for a crown reduction of two sycamore trees (S1 and S2 on the plan), both located to the rear boundary of our property at 2, Paddock Green PE11 1XN. The two sycamore trees, together with another larger sycamore located on the adjacent property, on the same line as S1 and S2, form a total canopy which cuts all natural sunlight to the property throughout the year. The resultant fall in sycamore seeds from these three trees gives considerable financial and physical expense, clearance of roof lines and gutters, borders, pots and paving. The height of both S1 at 55 feet and S2 at 50 feet now exceed their distance to the house at 40 feet, which is also a concern. S2 overhangs both the property to the side and to the property to the rear.

Our application is to 1. Reduce the height and spread of S1 down to the collar at approximately 19 feet from the ground and would therefore allow continuing normal growth over the forthcoming years and 2. Reduce the height of S2 by some 20 feet and remove, we think, 7 large branches which are currently overhanging properties to the side and rear.

We would hope to have these works carried out in January/February 2027 when the trees are inactive and the bare branches allow a clearer sight of the trees' structures, to allow precise cutting and mitigate attracting spring disease carrying insects.

We feel the works will be part of natural maintenance of the trees and to the garden whilst minimising any potential issues to our neighbours' properties and providing them with better light

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conditions.'

Additional explanatory notes following visit by Trees and Nature Conservation Officer on 22nd October 2026.

It is proposed to carry out the works on S1 first of all, which may greatly improve the amount of light reaching the garden.

S1 Has been heavily reduced/pollarded in the past and has regrown up to almost a natural canopy height. The proposed works will entail removal of the vigorous re-growth.

S2 Has fortunately not been heavily reduced in the past and retains a fine balanced canopy. Any reduction works to this tree are to be aimed at making it smaller whilst retaining its natural canopy shape.

Each cut to be made back to an existing growth point, to discourage rapid proliferation of extra shoots, and keep as natural a shape as is possible.

It was noted one low branch growing towards the neighbours be removed back to the trunk. Otherwise selective reduction of 2-3 metres where required to curtail advance over neighbouring property, whilst leaving a balanced canopy.

Possible thinning of the branch structure by removing selective branches was considered.

Should it be essential that the height be reduced, selective reduction of the tallest branches back to existing growth points would be encouraged rather than a straight across reduction.

(Sycamores grow fast and should the height be reduced without great care, the result is likely to be proliferation of extra shoots which are only weakly attached compared to the natural branch structure. The shoots produce a denser canopy than the original and soon reach the natural height again. Resulting in a weakened tree at height, denser growth which contributes to the wind sail and shading effect and requires the need for continued pruning to prevent excessive shade, and the new weak growth from blowing out.)

South Holland District Council has considered the proposal and has no objections, subject to any recommendation set out below;

1 That the proposed work is carried out within two years of the date of this letter of 'No Objection'.

2 Work is to be carried out in accordance with BSI 3998 : 2010, 'Recommendations for Tree Work'.

Notes:

The necessary consent of all other interested parties should be obtained before the works proceed.

Pruning of sycamores should take place in late summer or early autumn. All pruning works to sycamores should be completed by mid-January to avoid problems of sap bleed.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) all birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is an offence to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. In the event of query please contact Natural England on Tel: 03000 603900.

Bats are protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and in the event that bats are living in any cavities in the tree(s), or if they are discovered while the works are taking place, please inform Natural England on Tel: 03000 603900 before works proceed.



Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
South Holland District Council