Item No 12:-

18/00280/TPO

Abbey Grounds
Dugdale Road
Cirencester
Gloucestershire

T17 Yew - Pollard to below main storm damaged branches and make good all storm damaged branches, tidy any broken stubs. T26 Snake bark maple - Crown reduce by 25%. T27 Acer - Crown reduce by 25%. T38 Prunus - Remove split branches at Abbey Grounds Dugdale Road Cirencester Gloucestershire

Works to trees with a TPO 18/00280/TPO				
Applicant:	Cotswold District Council			
Agent:	Cotswold District Council			
Case Officer:	Christopher Fleming			
Ward Member(s):	Councillor Mark Harris			
Committee Date:	14th February 2018			
RECOMMENDATION:	DELEGATED PERMIT			

Main Issues:

(a) The potential loss of amenity due to the need to carry out tree works for safety reasons

Reasons for Referral:

This application has been referred to the Planning Committee for determination because it involves works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order on Council owned land.

1. Site Description:

This application relates to a parcel of land at Abbey Grounds, Cirencester. The land is a public open space used as an amenity park.

An Area Tree Preservation Order (TPO 1964) was served on the land by Gloucestershire County Council in 1964. Cotswold District Council became responsible for the TPO in 1974.

Attached to this report is a plan of the TPO and a plan showing the tree and the Council's ownership boundary.

The land is utilised as a public open space, car park and a recycling facility for bottles.

2. Relevant Planning History:

Previous TPO applications 16/05275/TPO, 16/05272/TPO, 16/02696/TPO, 14/05063/TPO, all applications were granted.

3. Planning Policies:

NA No Relevant Policies

4. Observations of Consultees:

N/A

5. View of Town/Parish Council:

No objection

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6. Other Representations:

No representations received at time of writing report

7. Applicant's Supporting Information:

N/A

8. Officer's Assessment:

The application is to pollard a yew tree (T17 Yew) and to make good all storm damaged branches. To reduce the crown by 25% of two trees (T26 Snake bark maple and T27 Acer) and to remove split branches from one tree (T38 Prunus).

During a recent tree inspection, various defects/issues were observed and recorded. A copy of these findings are attached.

Broadly speaking the defects/issues can be grouped into the following:

- 1) Trees in decline
- 2) Fungal infection
- 3) Split branches
- 4) Snow and wind damage

Overall, it is considered that the proposed pruning works are necessary to ensure the long term health and wellbeing of the trees on site. It will also ensure that risks to members of the public are reduced.

9. Conclusion

The works are necessary to remove maintain trees in a safe manner and remove hazards. To minimise the potential for harm to property and people. The application is therefore recommended for approval.

10. Proposed conditions:

The tree work that is the subject of this application is permitted and must be carried out within two years of the date of this notice after which consent lapses and a new application must be made.

Reason: To ensure that works to trees that are protected by Tree Preservation Orders within Cotswold District are effectively controlled and monitored.

Climbing spikes/irons must not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees, except on those that are to be felled.

Reason: Climbing spikes can cause extensive and long term damage to tree health

c) Works subject to this application must be carried out in accordance with the British Standard for tree works BS3998:2010.

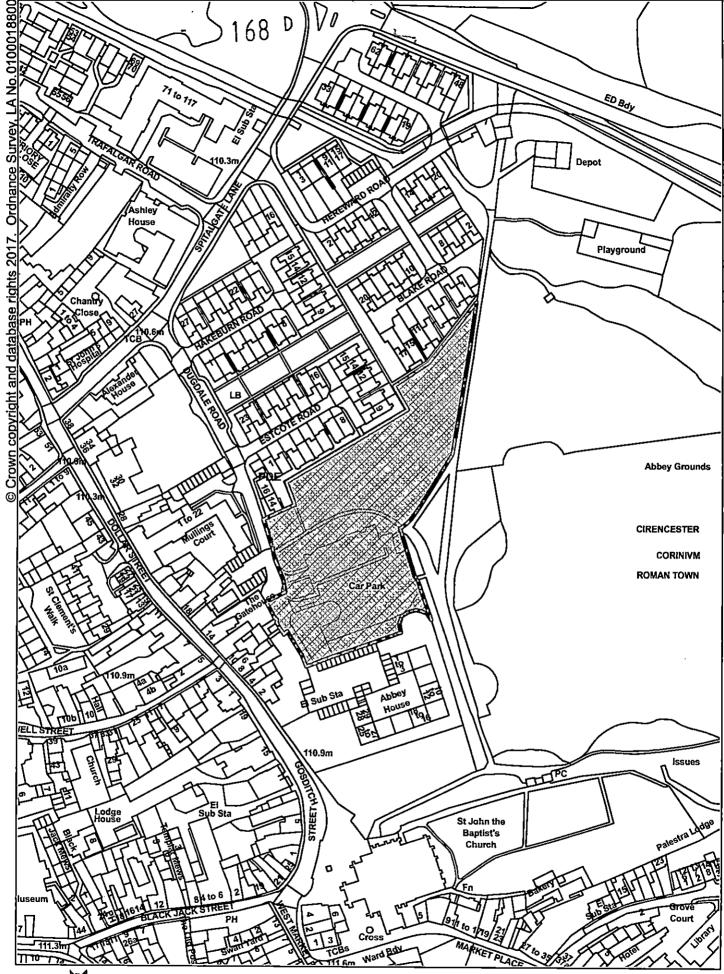
Reason: To ensure that works are carried out to an industry pre-defined standard, in the interests of the health, safety and appearance of the preserved trees.

Informatives:

a) If the trees are not in your ownership, you will require the permission of the owner before any works can be carried out.

b) Work to trees can have detrimental impacts on protected wildlife species. All British birds, their nests and eggs (with certain, very limited exceptions) are protected by law, as are all bat species and their roosts (even when unoccupied). Prior to commencing work you should ensure that bats and bat roosts; and nesting birds and birds' nests will not be adversely affected. If you suspect that a bat or a bat roost is likely to be affected by the proposed works, you should consult Natural England (www.naturalengland.org.uk).

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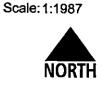


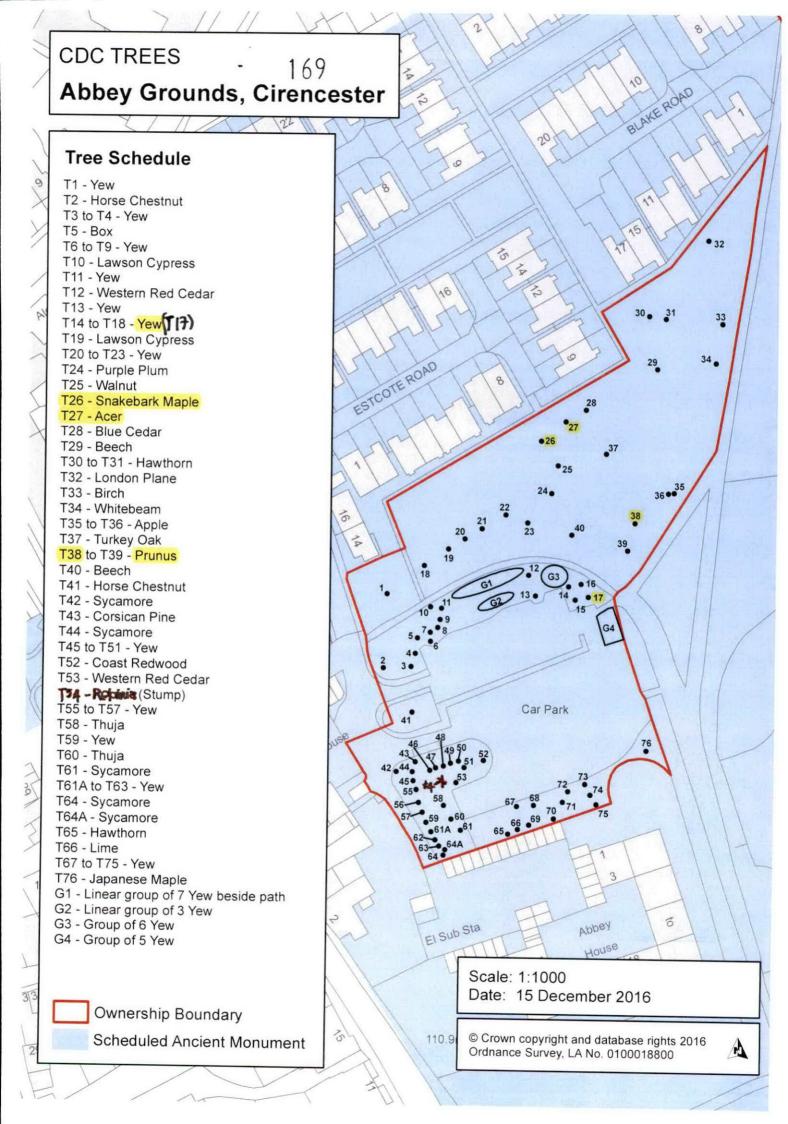
ABBEY GROUNDS DUGDALE ROAD CIRENCESTER

Organisation: Cotswold District Council

Department: Date: 01/02/2018

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL





Site – Abbey Grounds, Cirencester

Date of inspection 15th November 2017

Tree number	Species	Comments/Observations	Recommendation
26	Snakebark maple	9m tall. Mature tree. Trunk forked at 9m. MB - Forked at 1m not 9m? Forked into three stems at 1m. Maze gill present up and along one of the stems. Minor deadwood throughout. Trunk bleeding around 50% of base. Fungal fruiting body of Daedaleopsis confragosa or similar on 2 limbs. In decline but could be retained for several years with reduction pruning	Crown reduce in height and spread by approximately 25% of current dimensions by pruning out longer and heavier limbs as indicated on the annotated photo
27	Acer	8m tall. Mature tree. Trunk forked at 1.5m. Trunk bleeding around 20% of base, similar to tree 26. In decline but could be retained for several years with reduction pruning	Crown reduce in height and spread by approximately 25% of current dimensions by pruning out longer and heavier limbs as indicated on the annotated photo
38	Prunus	5m tall. Mature tree. No significant defects. Ornamental. 2 branches split and hanging to ground	Remove split branches
66	Lime	20m tall/ Mature tree. Previously reduced at 18m. Good growth in crown but some twiggy deadwood. Not significantly overhanging garages. Epicormics. Significant deadwood in canopy.	Remove deadwood (TPO exception, exempt from need to apply)

Extra works due to snow and wind damage:

T17 Yew – Pollard to below main storm damaged branches and make good all storm damaged branches. Tidy any broken stubs