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## **Section 7**

Removal of three Beech trees T1, T2 & T3 is proposed.

T1 is in rapid decline as indicated by progressive reduction in density of foliage and in leaf size, chlorotic appearance and die back at branch extremities.

There is no obvious reason for decline although it is understood that other trees have been lost along this banking over the years that may indicate fungal infections within the soils such as *Meripulus*.

It is not considered that this tree has any potential for recovery and the loss of T2 will substantially alter airflows that could in turn be reasonably expected to impose new stresses on T1 that being in a weak state, could readily suffer from wind blow.

T2 has major basal decay that could readily result in catastrophic failure that could impact upon neighbouring 3<sup>rd</sup> party properties. Felling is therefore the only reasonable management option.

T3 has reasonable vitality for its size and age but, as can be observed from the photographs appended, is heavily biased to the east due to suppression by T2. Upon removal of T2 this specimen would have limited visual value, would be exposed to new air currents including the prevailing westerly winds and may suffer from failure / wind blow.

Consideration has been given to the possibility of reduction and reshaping to attempt retention but, it was considered that the volume of material that would be required to be removed to achieve any reasonable degree of balance would leave the tree in a visually unattractive form. Furthermore, the removal of such a volume of carbohydrate producing material would not be beneficial to the health and future viability of the tree and could readily exacerbate decline. As such felling and replanting was considered the most proactive management option.

Should consent for removal be forthcoming, it is proposed that 3No. replacements are inserted, final positions to be agreed at the time of planting to afford reasonable clearances. Species to be:

Oak – *Quercus robur* Fastigate Koster.

Lime – *Tilia cordata* Greenspire

Hornbeam – *Carpinus betulus*.

Sizes to be 8-10cm standards, supplied, handled, planted & staked in accordance with all good Standards and arboricultural practices.