<u>FAKENHAM – TPO 21 0987</u> - Land at Farmland North of A1067 Norwich Road Langor Bridge Little Ryburgh Fakenham Norfolk NR21 0LW

Ref No. TPO/21/0987

Officer: Simon Case (Senior Landscape Officer)

PURPOSE OF REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE - To consider whether to confirm a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) to protect a Group of trees at the above site.

BACKGROUND

A Member of the public contacted the Council informing them that three mature trees had been felled along a hedge line at the above address and that they were worried further trees could be felled.

A Landscape Officer visited the site and examined the remains of the trees felled. The trees were in a hedgerow that runs north from the main road. The trees appeared to have no major defects.

The Officer considered that the remaining row of trees to the north of the field in the hedgerow running West to East had significant landscape amenity and therefore it was expedient to serve a Tree Preservation Order.

REPRESENTATIONS

Objections to the Order:-

One letter of objection to the Order has been received. (See Copy at Appendix A)

One letter of support for the Order has been received. (See Copy at Appendix B)

The main objection is:

The grounds of the objection relate to why these trees are singled out for specific protection in the locality.

APPRAISAL

In response to the objections the following comments are made:

The letter of support details the historic and biodiversity value of the trees felled and that of the remaining trees. The supporter considered the trees to be healthy prior to felling and they have provided evidence of being qualified in tree inspection.

A TPO was served on these trees to protect Landscape amenity by preventing felling without consideration for Historic and biodiversity impact.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

It is considered that the serving of the Order may raise issues relevant to Article 8: The right to respect for private and family life, and Article 1 of the First Protocol: The right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions.

Having considered the likely impact on an individual's human rights, and the general interest of the public, it is anticipated that the confirmation of this Order would be proportionate, justified and in accordance with planning law

MAIN ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Whether or not the Order was served correctly in accordance with the relevant legislation and the Council's adopted policy.

Officers are satisfied that the proper procedures were followed when serving the Order.

2. Whether or not the Order has been served on trees of sufficient amenity value to warrant a Preservation Order.

Officers consider that the tree makes a significant contribution to the quality of the local environment and its enjoyment by the wider public and that therefore has high amenity value.

RECOMMENDATION:-

That the Order be confirmed.