

## **5.1 OBJECTION TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 03 OF 2015 LOCATED AT HOLLYM, CLENCHES FARM LANE, SEVENOAKS**

### **ITEM FOR DECISION**

This report sets out details of objections received following this order.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Tree Preservation Order No 03 of 2015 be confirmed without amendment.

### **The Site and Background**

- 1 Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No. 03 of 2015 relates to a row of Lime trees situated at Hollym, Clenches Farm Lane, Sevenoaks.
- 2 These trees were protected following a request from several concerned local residents as this site is currently undergoing development. The neighbours raised concerns that new occupiers of the properties would put pressure on the tree owner to substantially reduce or to remove them. They are located outside of the conservation area. They are situated in a prominent location as they provide an effective screen between neighbouring properties. Their removal would have a negative impact on the amenity of the local area. TPO 03 was served in order to afford them continued protection following this request.

### **Representations**

- 3 An objection to the serving of the TPO has been received from Mr C Murdoch of Hollym, Clenches Farm Lane, Sevenoaks, the tree owner. Mr Murdoch objects to the serving of the order on the grounds that the serving of the order is unnecessary and it is cumbersome for him and his neighbours to continually apply to cutback overhanging branches. Mr Murdoch claims that overhanging branches have to be cutback on an almost annual basis, otherwise damage to neighbouring properties would occur.
- 4 In response to the objection raised by Mr Murdoch, consent was granted in April this year, to re-pollard these Lime trees. It is not expected therefore, that further works would be required to these trees until the canopy has re-grown to its former extent, other than the removal of basal and epicormic growth. This is produced by the trees in response to the recently completed pruning works. Consent could be granted to remove this re-growth on an annual basis, over a 5 year period, to prevent the owner or his neighbours applying annually. These trees can be clearly seen from the neighbouring gardens. Any unauthorised pruning works would be detrimental to their appearance. Their loss would be detrimental to the local amenity. With no protection previously afforded to these trees. Guarantees cannot be provided as to the control or not of their future management.

### **Conclusion**

- 5 Given the aforementioned information. It is suggested that the details as provided within the objections to this TPO are not strong enough reasoning to leave these

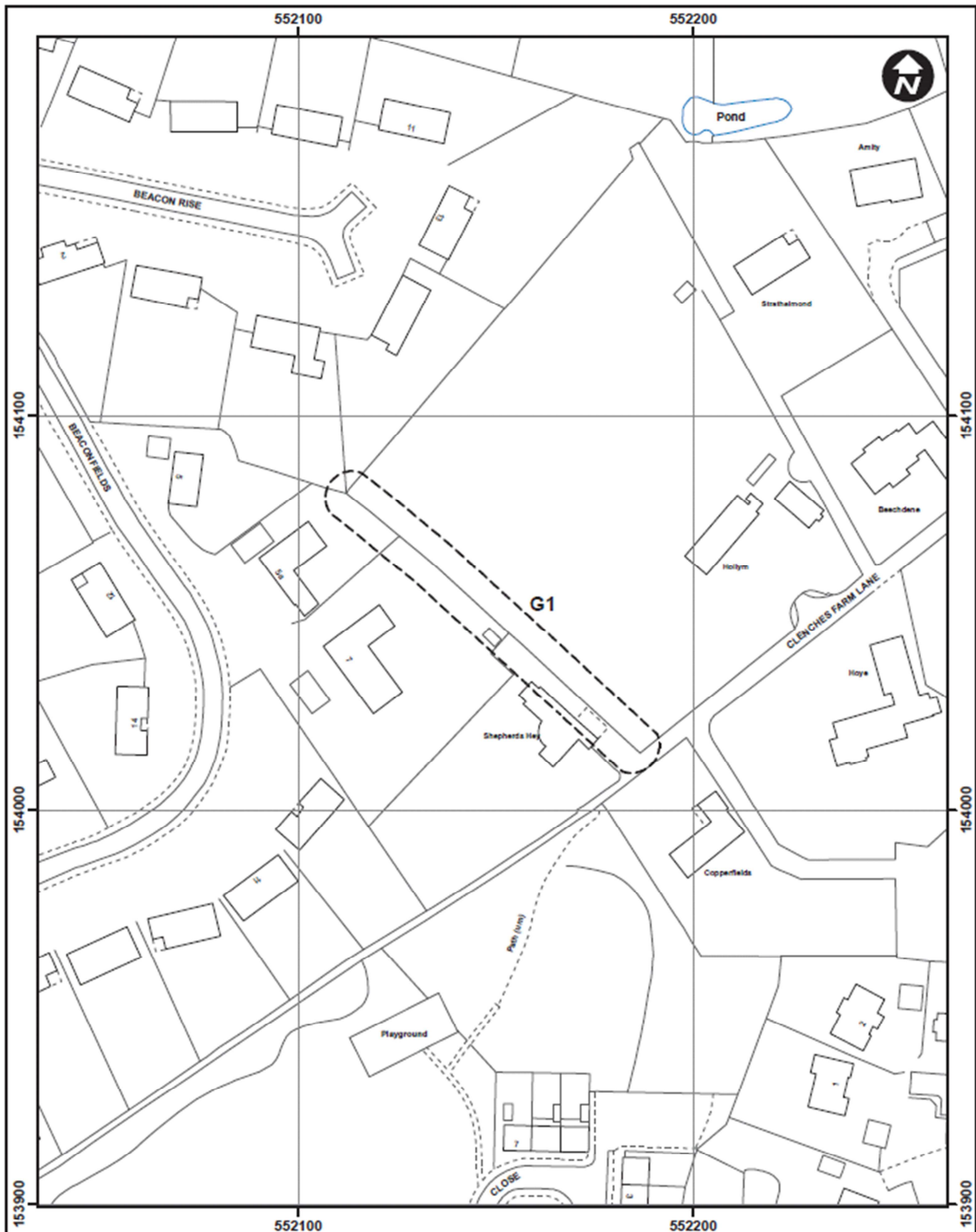
prominent trees without any formal protection. It is my recommendation therefore that TPO 03 of 2015 be confirmed without amendments.

Please find attached TPO/03/2015 (Appendix 1).

**Contact Officer:**

Les Jones Arboricultural & Landscape Officer  
Extension 7289

**Richard Morris**  
**Chief Planning Officer**



<b>Tree Preservation Order</b>	
TPO 3 (2015)	Scale: 1:1,250 Date: 19/03/2015
Hollym, Clenches Farm Lane, Sevenoaks, KENT TN13 2LX	
<small>Produced by the GIS Team, Sevenoaks District Council</small>	

**SCHEDULE 1**  
**SPECIFICATION OF TREES**

**Trees specified individually**  
(encircled in black on the map)

<i>Reference on Map</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Situation*</i>
	None	

**Trees specified by reference to an area**  
(Within a dotted black line on the map)

<i>Reference on Map</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Situation*</i>
	None	

**Groups of trees**  
(Within a broken black line on the map)

<i>Reference on Map</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Situation*</i>
G1	Group of 26 Lime trees.	Situated on the western boundary of Hollym, Clenches Farm Lane, Sevenoaks.

**Woodlands**  
(Within a continuous black line on the map)

<i>Reference on Map</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Situation*</i>
	None	

\* complete if necessary to specify more precisely the position of the trees.