

5. REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF STREET TREE OUTSIDE 40 BROOKSIDE TERRACE

Officer responsible Anne Greenup	Author AJL Armstrong, Arborist, Greenspace DDI 941-8578
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The purpose of this report is to respond to a request by a resident, (reference 90297392), to gain approval for the removal of a street tree. The tree is not a protected tree and it is not a health and safety issue, hence approval is sought from the Board.

The tree, *Betula spp* (Birch), outside No. 40 Brookside Terrace is approximately 9m in height with a girth (at 1.4m) of 600mm. The **attached** photograph refers. It exhibits some minor trunk wounds and a slightly atypical structure in the canopy; but is otherwise a healthy tree. It appears to be the only *Betula spp* in the street. These trees do not appear to have been maintained recently and will need pruning in due course. There is no arboricultural reason to remove the tree at this stage.

However, a building consent, (reference number ABA 10044125) has been granted by the Council and a vehicle crossing is required for access to the property. The optimum position for this crossing is in direct conflict with the street tree. Construction of the garage has commenced.

Options to complete the development whilst retaining the tree have been considered and these were:

- a) Cutting the crossing across the berm and the root zone is a compromise to both the optimum construction of the driveway and the tree. The positioning of the driveway/crossing needs to be sited specifically for traffic safety considerations. Cutting of the berm/root zone risks damage to roots and hence the health and safety of the tree.
- b) Transplanting is possible but at a cost. The resident has offered to replace the tree and so removal and replacement is considered to be the most reasonable option.

In conclusion, it is considered prudent to remove and replace the tree.

Staff

- Recommendations:**
1. That the street tree outside No. 40 Brookside Terrace be removed and be replaced at the resident's cost.
 2. That the size, species and most suitable location for the replacement tree be determined by staff in consultation with the resident.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendations reluctantly, be approved.