

**STRATEGIC PLANNING BOARD – 20 AUGUST 2014**

**UPDATE TO AGENDA**

**APPLICATION NO: 14/1680C**

**LOCATION Land Between Manchester Road and,  
Giantswood Lane, Hulme Walfield, Congleton**

**UPDATE PREPARED 18 AUGUST 2014**

**Council's Forestry Officer:**

The amended Arboricultural Information indicates some minor incursion into the rooting environment of an Oak to the south and the removal of a small tree within an existing group to accommodate the proposed footpaths flanking either side of the proposed access. The Council's Forestry Officer is satisfied that the removal of the small tree (a Sycamore) will not have any significant impact upon the wider amenity. The minor ingress towards the Oak is acceptable; the Oak has a major cavity and will likely require some pruning to reduce risk. Widening of Congleton Road on the opposite side will impact on a group of small trees ingressing marginally on their rooting environment. These trees are not significant specimens and any impact on the wider amenity limited. A young 20m hedgerow will also require removal. The hedgerow does not satisfy the criteria for Importance under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 and therefore Council's Forestry Officer raise no objections to its removal, subject to conditions relating to Tree Protection.

**OFFICER APPRAISAL**

The comments from the Council's Principal Forestry and Arboricultural Officer are welcomed and indicate that the proposals would not have an adverse impact upon protected trees, trees with amenity or landscape value or protected hedgerows. On that basis, any impacts during the construction period can be eliminated via conditions.

The recommendation remains for approval as per the committee report with two additional conditions relating to tree protection:

**21. Tree Retention**

**22. Tree Protection**