

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE  
8 DECEMBER 2008**

**OBJECTIONS TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 590  
(FORMER RD&E HOSPITAL (HEAVITREE), GLADSTONE ROAD, EXETER)**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report gives details of objections that have been received by the Council to Exeter City Council Tree Preservation Order No. 590 (Former RD&E Hospital (Heavitree) Gladstone Road, Exeter). The Committee is requested to determine whether to confirm, modify or refuse to confirm the Order. If an Order is confirmed (with or without modification) the protection that it provides becomes permanent but if it is not confirmed it ceases to have effect.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Tree Preservation Order No. 590 protects an area of trees growing within the former RD&E Hospital site, adjacent to Heavitree Road and Gladstone Road.
- 2.2 Tree Preservation Order No. 590 was made as the site is currently for sale, which may result in the loss of trees during any redevelopment.
- 2.3 The Order was signed on 14 August 2008 and remains in force for a period of 6 months. If the Order is confirmed the protection becomes permanent, if the Order is not confirmed it ceases to have effect.

**3. POINTS RAISED BY THE OBJECTORS**

- 3.1 One letter of objection has been received.
- 3.2 The objection can be summarised as follows:
- Not all the trees included within the area have a high amenity value and therefore do not warrant the protection of a Tree Preservation Order in its present form;
  - The owners of the site have offered to instruct an arboricultural consultant to assess the trees individually with a view to protecting individual trees.

**4. POINTS RAISED BY THE SUPPORTERS.**

- Councillor Branston would like to register his support for confirming the Tree Preservation Order.

**5. OBSERVATIONS**

- 5.1 The 'area' designation is intended to protect all trees on the site prior to design plans being commissioned for any proposed development. The Council will update the 'area' designation to individual trees and groups when or if any proposed development is complete.

5.2 The owners of the site have not proceeded with a full tree survey to date. If this information is provided the TPO will be replaced with a detailed one specifying individual trees.

## **6. AREA WORKING PARTY**

6.1 Southern Area Working Party raised no issues.

## **7. RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 It is recommended that the Order be confirmed without modification.

**RICHARD SHORT**  
**HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES**

### **ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE**

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)**

**Background papers used in compiling this report:**

1. Council to Exeter City Council Tree Preservation Order No. 590 (Former RD&E Hospital (Heavitree) Gladstone Road, Exeter)