



**SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

## Planning Committee

11 June 2026



### S26/0113

Proposal:	Remove suckers from tree (07A9), fell tree (07AA). (G3)(TPO-365).
Location:	Stonebridge Close Amenity Area, Stonebridge Road, Grantham, NG31 9AR
Applicant:	South Kesteven District Council
Application Type:	TPO Tree Application
Reason for Referral to Committee:	SKDC is Applicant and Landowner
Key Issues:	Impact on the amenity of the area Justification for the works

#### Report Author

Sean Davies – Tree Officer Planning



01476 406379



Sean.Davies@southkesteven.gov.uk

**Corporate Priority:**

**Growth**

**Decision type:**

**Regulatory**

**Wards:**

**Grantham St Vincent's**

**Reviewed by:**

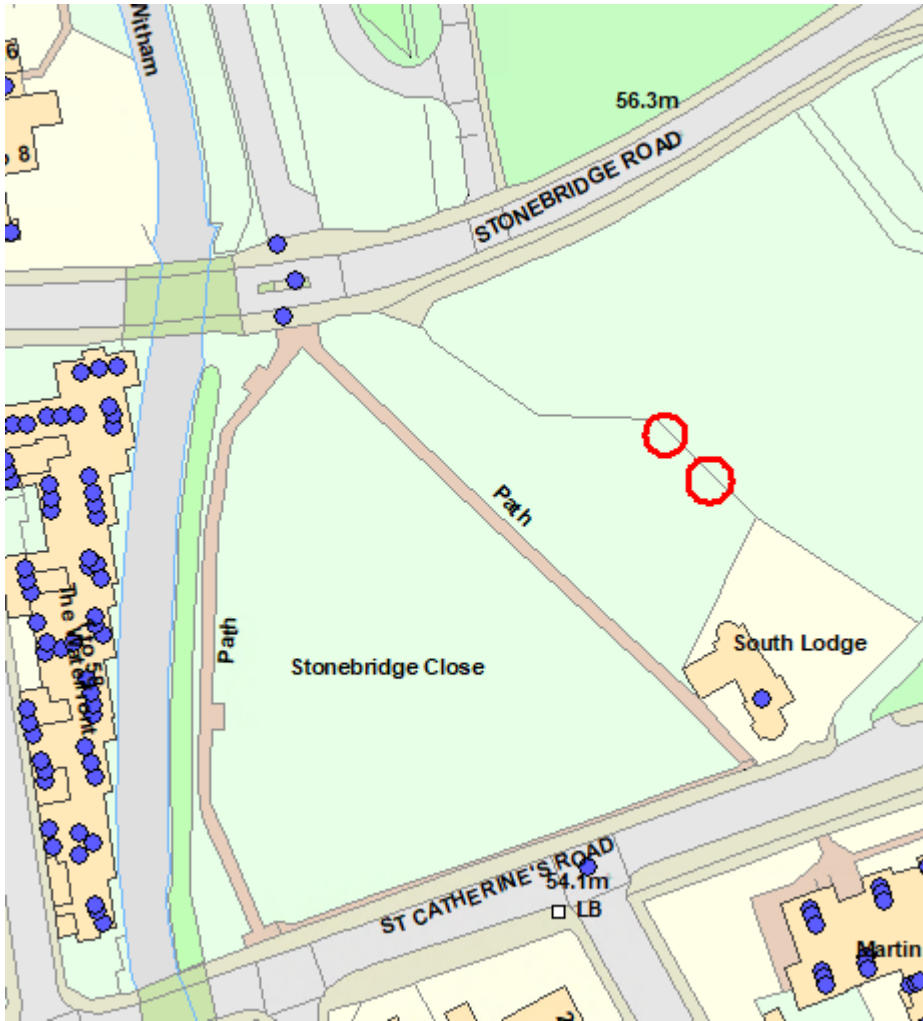
Phil Jordan, Development Management & Enforcement Manager

2 June 2026

#### Recommendation(s) to the Decision Maker(s)

1. To authorise the Assistant Director – Planning & Growth to GRANT consent, subject to conditions.

# Stonebridge Close Amenity Area, Stonebridge Road, Grantham, NG31 9AR



Key

Application  
Boundary



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## **1 Description of Site**

- 1.1 The site forms part of the grounds of Stonebridge House, a Grade II listed building (Ref. LB2128), and part of the public open space with clear public views. It makes a strong contribution to the local history, character and amenity of the area.

## **2 Description of Proposal**

- 2.1 Remove suckers from tree (07A9), fell tree (07AA). (G3) (TPO-365).

## **3 Relevant Considerations**

- 3.1 South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) has a duty to assess the value of the tree/s subject to this application and the likely impact of the proposal on the amenity of the area. It must consider whether or not the proposal is justified having regard to the reasons put forward in support of it.
- 3.2 The Council must consider whether any loss or damage is likely to arise if consent is refused or granted subject to conditions and whether this would impact on the amenity of the area. In deciding an application, SKDC is not required to have regard to the local development plan. Each application will be treated on its merits.

## **4 Representations Received**

- 4.1 One representation was received requesting that a bat survey be undertaken prior to works commencing and that replacement trees be provided should consent be granted for the tree removal.

## **5 Evaluation**

- 5.1 The application has been submitted by the Council's Tree Officer, who has advised that the works have been identified as necessary for public safety and maintenance access reasons.
- 5.2 The proposed tree works are reasonable and justified. There would be no harm to the visual amenity of the area as a result of the proposed works, which are recommended in the interests of good arboricultural practice and public safety.
- 5.3 Subject to the conditions proposed it is considered that the works would not result in any harm to the visual amenity of the area and there would be clear public safety benefits from the proposed works.
- 5.4 Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, it is a criminal offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb bats while they occupy a structure or place used for shelter or protection. Consent for the works would last for two years, during which the works could occur at any time; a bat survey undertaken prior to determination would not prevent the site becoming a bat roost during the consent period. It is standard practice for tree contractors to carry out a dynamic on-site assessment for protected wildlife, including nesting birds, bats and other protected species. Enforcement of wildlife legislation sits with the police rather than the planning authority. On this basis, a pre-determination bat survey is not considered necessary or effective, and reliance on existing legal protections and standard on-site ecological checks is considered appropriate.
- 5.5 With regard to replacement tree planting, this is recommended to be secured by planning condition.

## **6 Crime and Disorder**

- 6.1 It is considered that the proposal would not result in any significant crime and disorder implications.

## **7 Human Rights Implications**

- 7.1 Articles 6 (Rights to fair decision making) and Article 8 (Right to private family life and home) of the Human Rights Act have been taken into account in making this recommendation. It is considered that no relevant Article of that act will be breached.

## **8 Conclusion**

- 8.1 Taking the above into account, it is considered that the proposed tree works are appropriate and would deliver public safety and arboricultural management benefits without causing harm to the visual amenity of the area.

## **9 Recommendation**

- 9.1 To authorise the Assistant Director – Planning & Growth to GRANT consent, subject to conditions:

1. Time Limit for Implementation. This consent is valid for a period of two years from the date of this decision notice, or until the completion of the approved tree works, whichever occurs first. Reason: To ensure the works are undertaken in a timely manner, reflecting the time-limited nature of Tree Preservation Order consents, as required by Regulation 17(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.
2. Tree Works Standards. All tree works authorised by this consent shall be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations and European Arboricultural Standards Tree Pruning 2024. Reason: To ensure the health, amenity value and structural stability of the tree(s) are preserved in accordance with best arboricultural practice and the statutory requirements of Tree Preservation Order No. 365.
3. Replacement Tree Planting. Before the works hereby permitted, full details and specification for a proposal to provide one replacement tree for tree ref. 07AA, Sycamore, shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. The replacement tree shall be one specimen from the following short list of acceptable species (or genus): *Fagus sylvatica* (Beech), *Tilia platyphyllos* (Large-leaved Lime), or *Tsuga heterophylla* (Western Hemlock). The tree shall be nursery grown, with a container size of at least 40L, a girth of 20/25 cm measured 1m from soil level, and a height of at least 2m. It shall be planted as close as practicable to the original tree location during the first available planting season (1 September 2026 to 31 March 2028), with a hydration sack and 75mm organic bark mulch. The tree shall be watered a minimum of 13 times per year (fortnightly from April to September) for 5 years. If it dies, becomes diseased or fails to establish, it shall be replaced with a similar tree in the next planting season. The Local Planning Authority shall be informed in writing once the replacement tree has been planted. Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and in order to maintain tree population at this site after the removal of the preserved tree, and in accordance with Section 206 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

### **Standard Note(s) to Applicant:**

In reaching the decision the Council has worked with the applicant in a positive and

proactive manner by determining the application without undue delay. As such it is considered that the decision is in accordance with paras 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

# TREE LOCATION PLAN

