

**Land at rear of Jasmine Cottage, Main Street, Askham Richard,  
York YO23 3PT**

**Statement in support of application to fell one willow tree in the  
Askham Richard Conservation Area**

This application is to notify York City Council that the Applicant intends to fell one willow tree (Tree T1) on land at the rear of Jasmine Cottage, Askham Richard. Permission for this work is required because the land falls within the Askham Richard Conservation Area.

The boundary of Jasmine Cottage and the location of Tree T1 are shown in RED on the **Site and Location Plan – Drawing no. AR25**. 4 photographs taken on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 are also supplied to show the location and condition of the tree (see **Photos 1, 2 & 3**) and the small branches collected close to the solar panels following recent storms in the area (Arwen and Barra) (see - **Photo 4**).

Tree T1 is located on the northern boundary of the field at the rear of Jasmine Cottage in close proximity to an array of ground-mounted solar panels which have been installed in accordance with planning permission no. 18/02888/FUL. It forms part of a line of trees of varying species and condition along the northern boundary of this field. A group of mature trees further along this boundary to the west is covered by a Tree Preservation Order but Tree T3 is not included within this designation.

Tree T3 is a multi-stemmed willow approximately 15 metres in height – see **Photo 1**. The 8 main stems emanate from the single base which has severe splitting and decay throughout – see **Photos 2 and 3**.

In the past this tree has shed a number of branches and it now poses a real threat to the adjacent solar panels. The recent storms in this area clearly demonstrate that Tree T1 is shedding small side branches which have landed close to the solar panels. If one of the large stems were to break off at the base or midway, very substantial damage to, and possibly even complete destruction of, the solar panel array might occur, particularly if there was another strong gale from the north blowing the stems in a southerly direction over the panels.

Given the very poor condition of this tree, and its low visual amenity value within the Conservation Area, the Applicant intends to fell the tree before damage to the solar panels occurs unless the Council decide within 6 weeks to make a Tree Preservation Order which the Applicant does not believe would be justified in this case.

**9 December 2021**

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