

Landscape Tree Replacement Plan

The Old Rectory, 1 Church Street, Little Gransden, SG19 3DU.
South Cambridgeshire District Council Planning Permission, ref 23/02292/HFUL.

Condition 4 of the above referenced planning approval states

“A landscape tree replacement plan outlining one new replacement tree within the redline boundary of the site including a 5-year aftercare plan shall be provided prior to any works to trees. Details are to include number of replacements, species, size, location and approximate date of planting. The replacement planting shall be carried out as approved.

Reason: To replace the loss of canopy cover and to ensure there is commitment and consistence of a future tree canopy cover within the local conservation area in accordance with Policy NH/2 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018.”

The Plan

Over the last three years, the owners have planted over 30 different trees and large-growing shrubs in the grounds of The Old Rectory. These trees and shrubs are of many different species and vary from quite young specimens to more mature trees of c6m in height.

The species planted include Oak, Willow, Birch (4 different varieties), Walnut, Holly, Beech, Cherry and Yew.

As a result, the grounds are already well-populated with trees, most of which are large and mature, including quite high concentrations in two areas of woodland and an orchard and there is a shortage of suitable space to plant further trees.

However, the planning permission granted for the new pool and outbuildings and the infill of the existing pool to create a sunken garden presents an opportunity to plant a few trees within this new landscaped area, in a sheltered, warm, sunny part of the garden. The design of the sunken garden has not yet begun but it will include at least one Field Maple (*Acer Campestre*) in the North corner, at least 2 metres high at the time of planting.

The Field Maple would be planted at the same time as the landscaping and planting of the wider sunken garden, rather than before, in order that the young tree is not disturbed by that landscaping. This is expected to be no later than 12 months after completion of the construction of the outbuildings and the new pool.

All of the trees that the owners have planted in the last few years have been acquired from reputable nurseries, professionally planted and are being automatically watered using a professionally-installed automated watering system, for at least the first five years post-planting. The same would be true of the Field Maple proposed here.

Your approval is requested.

Date 30th September 2023