

Heritage Statement

Location: Fenstanton Cemetery, Fenstanton, Cambridgeshire
Tree: Common Yew (*Taxus baccata*)
Proposed Works: Crown lift to provide up to 10 feet (3 metres) clearance from ground level.

Fenstanton Cemetery is situated within the Fenstanton Conservation Area and forms an important part of its historic and landscape character. The Common Yew contributes positively to the appearance of the cemetery and is a characteristic species often associated with churchyards and burial grounds. The tree will be retained as part of the site's landscape setting.

The proposed works are limited to the removal of lower branches to provide approximately 10 feet (3 metres) of clearance above ground level. The works are required to improve access for visitors, facilitate routine maintenance, and ensure the continued safe and practical use of the cemetery.

The proposal does not involve the removal of the tree or any significant reduction in its height, spread, or overall form. As such, the visual contribution of the tree to the cemetery and conservation area will be preserved.

Planning Justification

Under Sections 69 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, special attention should be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas. The proposed crown lift constitutes minor arboricultural management that will not adversely affect the significance, appearance, or amenity value of the tree. The works are necessary, proportionate, and consistent with the ongoing management of a public cemetery.

The proposal will preserve the character and appearance of the Fenstanton Conservation Area while supporting the safe use and maintenance of the cemetery. Accordingly, the works are considered to accord with the statutory objectives for the protection and management of heritage assets.

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