

Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	4 th August 2026
Report Title	Tree Pollarding Request
Agenda Reference	15
Author	Laura Cutter, Deputy Clerk, HR & Services Manager

Officers Recommendation:

1. Take no further action and retain the tree in its current condition.

Background

The resident has expressed concerns regarding the number of debris falling into their garden and the potential risk this poses to their dog.

This request falls outside the Council's Tree Management Policy, which is why it has been referred to the Committee for Member consideration.

Following a site visit with a Contractor, they have advised that, due to the species and growth characteristics of the tree, pollarding is **not** considered an appropriate long-term solution. In the Contractor's professional opinion - pollarding would encourage excessive regrowth, potentially exacerbate the issue and create the need for ongoing maintenance, potentially on an annual basis.

The Contractor has advised that the only effective long-term alternative would be complete removal of the tree. However, the tree appears to be healthy and has no obvious structural or safety concerns.

As such, removal would be based solely on the nuisance caused by leaf and debris fall rather than the condition of the tree.

A quotation from the Contractor has now been received. Given the contractor's advice, Members are asked to consider whether they wish to:

- Take no further action and retain the tree in its current condition.
- Approve pollarding, recognising this is contrary to the Arboricultural advice and is likely to result in ongoing maintenance requirements; or
- Consider removal of the tree, acknowledging that it is healthy and removal would be for nuisance reasons only. **£647.50 + VAT.**

