

## **SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**REPORT TO:** Planning Committee

3 July 2013

**AUTHOR/S:** Planning and New Communities Director

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### **THE OLD RECTORY, LITTLE GRANSDEN TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 01/12/SC AND REFUSAL OF APPLICATION TO FELL C/11/17/063/01–9424 - CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION**

**Recommendation: To revoke the Tree Preservation Order (TPO) for the Cedar and Wellingtonia at the Old Rectory.**

**Date for Determination: 3 July 2013**

#### **A. Update to the report**

##### **Agenda report paragraph numbers 7 and 8 – Claim for compensation**

The solicitors acting for the owners' insurance company wrote to us on 26 June and a copy of their letter is with this update. The letter notes parts of the Committee report, recaps their view of the legal situation and recognises that the Council has a difficult task in deciding between competing considerations. It says that repair costs are still under review while an acceptable underpinning scheme is developed, but, as the Committee meeting is next week, gives an update on progress. Following the advice of the claimants' structural engineer, and subject to the approval of the Council's conservation officer, the letter says that for the time being the preferable option would be for limited underpinning which would have a total cost in the order of £110,000. It goes on to note that while this would be the most satisfactory repair compromise there would remain a residual risk which could lead to further claims for compensation.

##### **Agenda report paragraph number 25 – Conclusions**

The owners have confirmed that they will replace the trees if they are allowed to remove them.

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