

## **Saltash Town Council**

### **Voluntary Tree Wardens Report**

#### **PA22/02132 – Milestone, New Road, Saltash, Cornwall.**

It's a plan to fell 7 ash trees which are reportedly affected by ash die-back (though 2 that are still healthy need to be felled because they are currently sheltered by trees that do need to be felled - they won't survive without their protection). These 7 constitute about half the trees on the roadside in that area. The plan includes replanting with 11 standard trees of various species.

We have arranged to meet Steve Harding on site on 17th March, and I regret it's impossible to get there before that. Therefore, we won't have any formal comments for the STC meeting on 15th March, though we shall have input into the final recommendation of the Tree Officer.

As far as I can see from a 'desktop review' of the application, it seems inevitable that these trees will need to be felled, and it's better to do it now so the replacements can get established before the ash dieback affects the remaining ash trees and necessitates more felling. However, we are not convinced that they have made the right choice of species for replacement (they suggest 6 holm oaks, which are not native trees, and not particularly good for wildlife) and we shall discuss that with the Tree Officer. In other sites, he has suggested limes, or a particular elm that is resistant to Dutch elm disease.