

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: AB/102/20/T

Location: Riverside House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Arundel, BN18 9JS

Description of works: Various works to various trees

Reasons given: Excessive shading.

Comments on Application:

T1 Horse chestnut / *Aesculus hippocastanum* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature
TPO/AB/2/82

- Appears to be in a fair physiological state, with a balanced limb/branch framework. An imperfect main stem perhaps worthy of further investigation, although supporting a compact and relatively light crown. Visible from afar and therefore has some public amenity value. Crown height and spread reduction is proposed to address excessive shading. I find the size of the tree and its proximity to the nearest dwellings to be harmonious. There is evidence of past reduction pruning which this proposal seeks to broadly replicate. Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

TA Oak?

- I saw no oak tree at the location marked on the plan or in the immediate area. An established off-site bay laurel (TPO/AB/3/93) may have been mistakenly identified as holm oak? In any event, I find the extent of reduction pruning proposed has not been justified and exceeds the requirements of British Standard (BS3998:2010) Tree work – Recommendations.

TB Sycamore / *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature
TPO/AB/3/93

- Appears to be in a fine physiological state, with a columnar and balanced light limb/branch framework. An off-site tree discreetly located between built form and of relatively low public amenity value. There is evidence of past reduction pruning which this proposal seeks to broadly replicate. Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

TC Prunus?

- I saw no established tree of that genus at the location marked on the plan or in the immediate area.

T4 Sycamore / *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature
TPO/AB/2/82

- Off-site tree which appears to be growing from within the publicly maintainable highway and so the responsibility of West Sussex County Council. It appears to be in a fair physiological state and is prominent roadside. There is evidence of past reduction pruning which the applicant may be seeking to replicate although a finished height of 6metres would be below the established knuckles and therefore damaging to the tree's ongoing health and vitality. The condition below provides the necessary instruction relevant to all work proposed within this application. Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- There will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.
- While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- Part a) Where whole branches are to be removed and final cuts made close to the trunk or branch union they are to be made as shown in Figure 2 of BS3998:2010
- Part b) Where branches are to be shortened back the final cuts are to be made at the correct angle shown in BS3998:2010 and adjacent to a live bud or lateral.
- Part c) Where pollarding or crown reduction pruning has occurred previously, then the removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established 'knuckles' so as not to extend beyond the point of origin.

Reasons: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

- See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter

Advisory:

- We are obliged to advise that where trees are situated on land not owned by the applicant the granting of consent by this authority does not by association give permission to undertake such works that require access onto/from that land. Nor does it permit any work to take place beyond the boundary of the applicant's property. Additional permission must first be obtained from the land/tree owner.
- The long-term vitality of tree Horse Chestnut (T1) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the late spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed should only be undertaken during this period.
- The long-term vitality of trees Sycamore (TB & T4) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work should only be undertaken during these periods.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

