Arun Tree Company Ltd

arboricultural contractors

28 Choller Cottage, Barnham Lane, Walberton, Arundel, BN18 0AX

[redacted]

Karen Wilson
Environment Agency
Guildbourne House
Chatsworth Rd
Worthing
BN11 0LD

29th August 2022

Dear Karen

I can confirm that I have been to Fitzalan Road and inspected the row of fourteen mature Willow trees. The main reason for the visit was to determine what works are required to ensure the structural integrity of these trees for the coming three years. In the past the trees have been pruned on a three-yearly cycle.

Due to the nature of Willow trees of this age, it is inevitable that decay will become more of an issue. This late spring, one of the trees had a limb fail (T11 - behind Number 32 Fitzalan rd). This is the first time that a we have had an issue which has occurred where the usual three yearly prune has not prevented such limb failures. The reason for the limb failure was heart wood decay.
This row of Willow trees, support large spreading canopies that overhang the rear gardens of properties 22 to 50 , Fitzalan Rd. The general condition of the trees is good. As mentioned - decay setting in on Willows of this age is inevitable.

Works recommended - The trees are pruned to reduce the structural height by approximately 1.5 to 2 metres (This is a reduction of the branch wood, down from their previous pruning knuckles). The canopy spread will require pruning to match this new height. The final height of the trees being approximately 11 metres once pruned.

The recommended reduction in structure is unavoidable due to the tree species/size and their proximity to dwellings. They will be structurally smaller and pose less of an influence on their surroundings, but still hold visual prominence. There were originally 21 Willow trees.

[redacted]

John Bentley ND Arb

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL AB/121/22/T