CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of report: 19 October 2022

Case Officer:	Hannah Riddle
Reference:	AB/121/22/T
Location:	Land to Rear of 22-50 Fitzalan Road, Arundel, BN18 9JS
Proposal:	14no. weeping willow trees crown reduction to height approx. 12m and spread approx. 4m on west side and 3m approx. on east side
Reason:	Risk management

Comments on Application:

14x Golden weeping willow / *Salix x sepulcralis Chrysocoma*

Average height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

I have considered this application by means of a desktop review. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding areas provides adeqaute insight to the proposal.

The applicant has employed Arun Tree Company Ltd. as agent, to prepare and submit a survey report and plan. This is comprehensive and includes a detailed work specification with satisfactory reasons given.

This established long (now sadly broken) line of trees help define the character of the area and provide significant visual amenity.

Conclusions:

The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. These are high profile specimen trees of significant public and visual amenity and are to be selectively pruned to achieve a reasonable level of risk to residential property and with respect for natural tree form.

While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable; if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at the right time, then the trees should be able to remain a long-term visually interesting feature in the local landscape.

Recommendation:

I recommend **CONSENT** is granted subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

Condition 1

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.

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

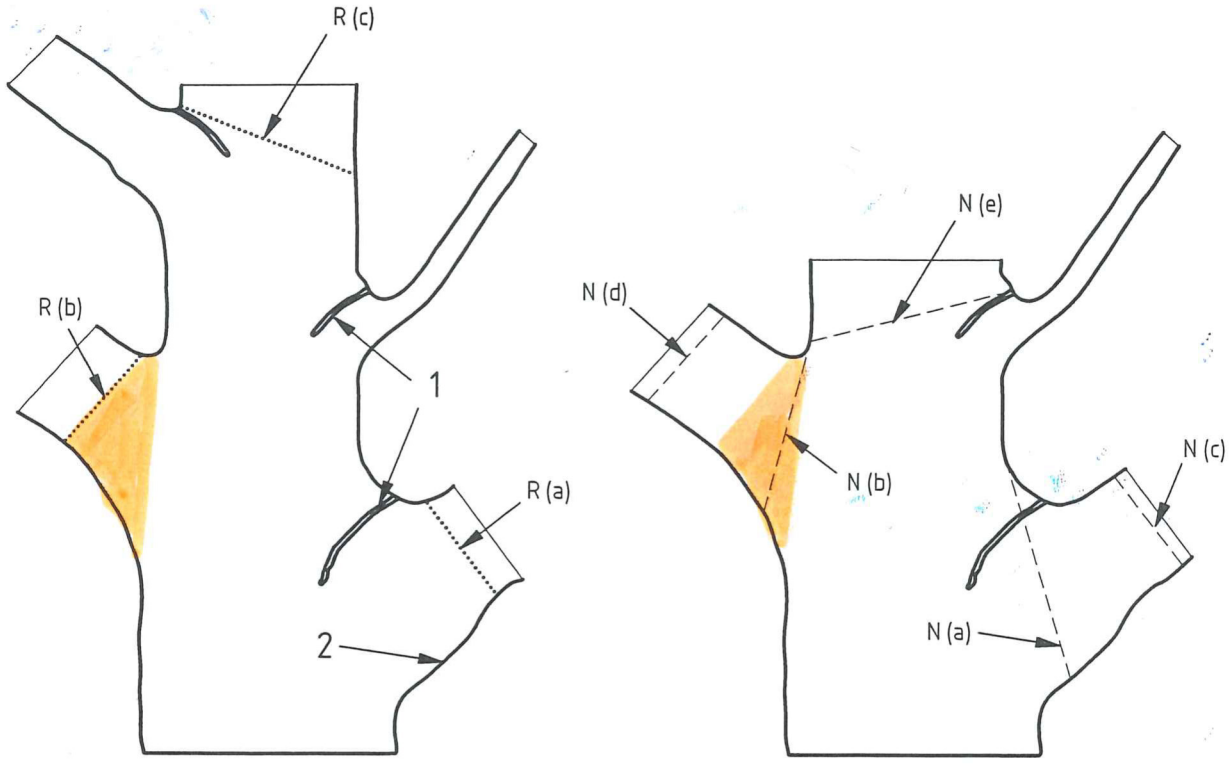
- ***See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter***

Advisory:

The long-term health and vitality of willow trees can be adversely affected by significant pruning such as proposed. The optimum time for this work is during the late spring to summer period (May to August).

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer
Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 **Positions of final cuts**



a) Recommended (R)

b) Not recommended (N)

Key

1	Branch bark ridges
2	Branch collar
R(a)	Cut where branch collar and branch bark ridge are apparent
R(b)	Cut where neither branch bark ridge nor branch collar are apparent
R(c)	Position for end-cut in crown reduction – maximum size of cut in relation to size of lateral branch
N(a)	Cut too close (removing the branch collar and cutting into the bark branch ridge)
N(b)	Cut too close (injuring parent stem in the crotch and too steeply angled)
N(c/d)	Cut too far out, leaving a stub (but see **C.2**, Note 2 for exceptions)
N(e)	Incorrect end cut (made beyond a branch that is too small, but see **7.2.4** regarding groups of branches, rather than one branch of a required size)
·····	Recommended cut
– – – –	Not recommended cut
	Basal flare of the branch that does not show a distinct collar or ridge

NOTE The optimum position and angle of the end-cut cannot be exactly prescribed, as branch unions vary considerably in their conformation.

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL AB/121/22/T