

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin
Planning Application Ref: AB/57/21/T
Location: Verge to South of 1 London Road, Arundel, BN18 9AZ
Description of works: Various works to 1no. holm oak tree
Reasons given: 1. Condition of tree 2. Nuisance
Comments on Application:

Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Height: 15-20m Spread: 5-10m Age class: Late mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information and plans submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding areas provides further insight to the proposal.
- Outwardly and from a distance this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and stable (insp. August 2020). It is prominent and visible from a relatively wide area, being a large tree in elevated position a good distance from any dwelling. This is a tree of high public amenity value.
- It has a complex crown arising from past erratic pruning (severe truncation of limb framework on N aspect, top height reduction and heavy reduction of limb framework on S aspect) and tear-out wounds (storm damage?). Despite all that to contend with it has grown-on well and presents an attractive crown profile.
- Low growth on its S aspect affects two properties (20 and 22) in particular. The very existence of the tree will present some seasonal nuisance (leaf dispersal) which should be tolerated given the wider benefits and shading, although the latter is not likely to be excessive given its northerly position relative to the applicant's property. Retention of low canopy is important if high levels of visual amenity are to be maintained.
- The applicant has employed Green Lane Forestry LLP as agent, to assess the tree and provide a report on its condition. This is comprehensive and recommends a balanced work proposal to manage the tree in an appropriate state for its location.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. This is a landmark tree of significant public and visual amenity which is to be carefully pruned to maintain reasonable enjoyment of residential property and with respect for natural tree form.
- If the work is undertaken to a high standard and at the right time; then the tree should be able to remain a long-term visually interesting feature in the local landscape.

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) No final cut shall exceed the maximum permitted diameter of 75mm.

Reasons: In the interests of the tree's 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*

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

