



Planning Officer : Damian Sullivan

Planning Application Ref: AB/9/14/TC

Location : Garden r/o 6 Bakers Hill Road, Arundel

Description of works: *This seems to be linked to a Planning Application*

Flowering Cherry – *Prunus avium* – to remove some branches overhanging adjoining garden in Bakers Hill – but no specific dimensions or indication of which branches is provided.

Ceanothus & Bay Laurel – to cut back both plants which overhang the boundary wall and grow into the garden from the neighbouring property.

Reasons Given: None really provided but seems to be linked with a Planning Application for a Studio

Recommendation:

NO Objection	X	Comment	X	Dead & Dangerous	
Object		Recommendation	X	Abate a Nuisance	X
Conditions Suggested		CA & Amenity Value		Tree Replacement required	

Comments On Application:

As well as the notification forms and plan I have read and taken note of the two letters of objection from neighbouring owners.

None of these plants or the tree merits imposing a TPO to control the works (see attached TEMPO form for Cherry) but I would advise as follows:-

Flowering Cherry Height – 4.5m : Avge Spread – 3.5m : Age – Mature

- An open and low spreading form due in part to previous pruning operations – has been reduced and reshaped with approximately 0.5m of regrowth arising from old pruning points.
- Has also been crown lifted to 3m above ground level in the past.
- Bifurcated at 1.8m and has a low spreading 'umbrella' form.

Ceanothus & Bay Laurel Height – 4m : Avge Spread – 2.5m (mostly south) : Age – Semi-mature

- Both plants are growing in the neighbours garden to the north side of the boundary wall but most of their crowns are presented overhanging the boundary line into the garden of No6.
- Some stems are resting on the top of the wall causing it to crack and in the case of the Bay the expansion of the stems is cracking the boundary wall – not sure who owns it?
- All of these plants are close to flowering - which is a very stressful time for them and when most damage can be done [entry of fungal and viral problems into the vascular system] so this is perhaps the worst time to prune them and I suggest that if approval is given there is a strong recommendation made that no pruning takes place until the plants have finished flowering.

CONCLUSIONS:

- To control the level of pruning we would have to make a TPO and these trees do not meet the criteria we have to apply in assessing amenity value.
- However, I will require more information or a site meeting in order to properly resolve this notification.
- The owner has not been specific with her request so it is not possible to determine this notification until a site meeting has been arranged to discuss and agree the extent of works – some pruning would be acceptable but an excess could easily ruin this trees amenity value!
- Telephone contact numbers have been redacted on the website copy of the notification that I have?
- I am also confused by the fact that on 3rd February Miss Burrows wrote to Ms Elderfield requesting a more specific tree work specification and yet on 4th February you acknowledged that the notification was valid?
- Can you please assist with providing telephone contact numbers – or would you wish to be present at the site meeting in which case perhaps you would wish to organise it? I will ring you to discuss further.

 Consultant Arboriculturist