

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 3rd December 2025

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper

Reference: AL/108/25/T

Location: Aldingbourne Community Sports Centre, Olivers Meadow, Westergate,
Aldingbourne, PO20 3YA

Proposal: Fell 1no. pedunculate oak (T1).

Reasons: None given

Comments on Application:

T1 Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature

A tall and imposing historic field boundary tree, impacted by and overbearing residential properties. It has been the subject of pollarding (hard pruning that removes the main limb and branch framework) and subsequent crown reduction pruning. It is visible from several properties and to users of large public open space.

The recent discovery of a significant fungal infection sadly condemns the tree at this location. Being so close to residential properties and play area, any windthrow could have catastrophic consequences. For decay of this type, it is difficult to determine the extent to which roots may be compromised, so one must take a cautionary approach in these circumstances.

Remedial pruning to the extent that the tree would no longer present an unreasonable level of risk, would be destructive in terms of visual amenity loss and accelerate the decay event.

It is hoped that the stump will be left at a useful height above ground level to conserve biodiversity. The retention of deadwood and decaying stumps can provide valuable habitats for plants and wildlife which may be protected under other legislation.

Conclusions:

The proposed work has been justified on arboricultural grounds.

There is ample room for a suitable replacement tree nearby, which can be secured by condition.

Recommendations:

We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within fifteen metres, free from the interference of established tree canopy so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown.

Our preferred location is shown as a green dot on the map below (figure 1.).

This is to be of Selected Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

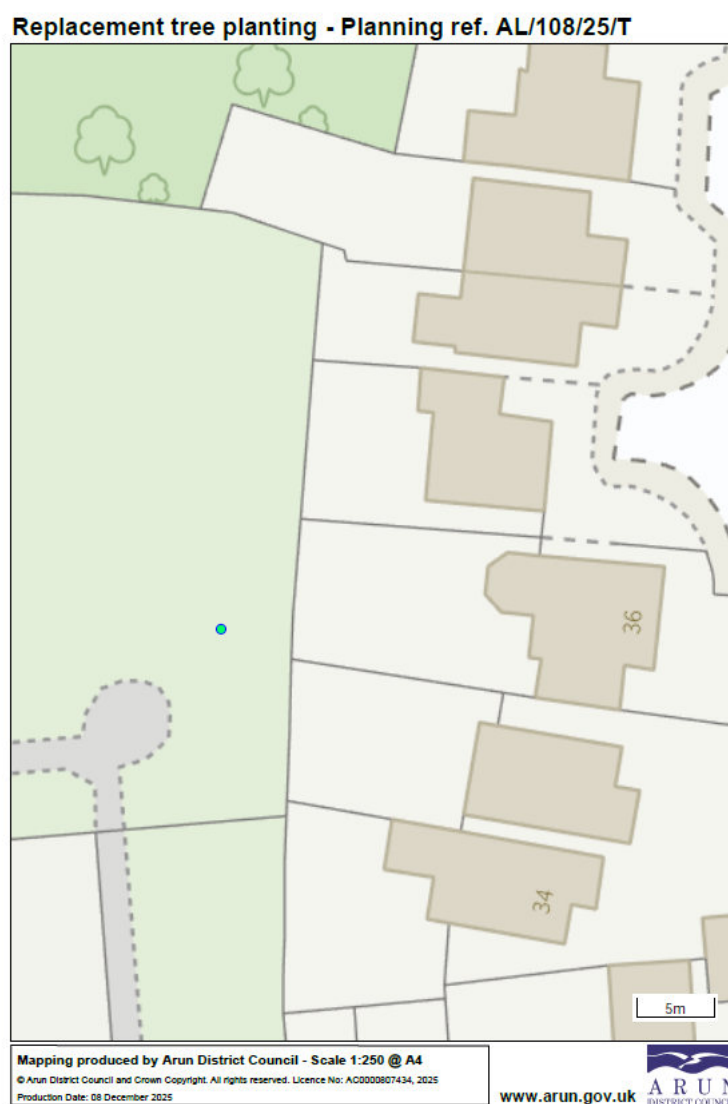


Figure 1. what3words - ///reset.trucked.jacket

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the oak tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Wild service *Sorbus torminalis*

Turkish hazel *Corylus colurna*

Hop hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia*

The selected tree(s) must be viable for long-term retention in the landscape after a period of five years from the date of this decision notice. Any tree dead, dying or considered unviable for long-term retention by the council's tree officer, will need to be replaced to the satisfaction of the local planning authority within 12months of that determination.

Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

AL/108/25/T

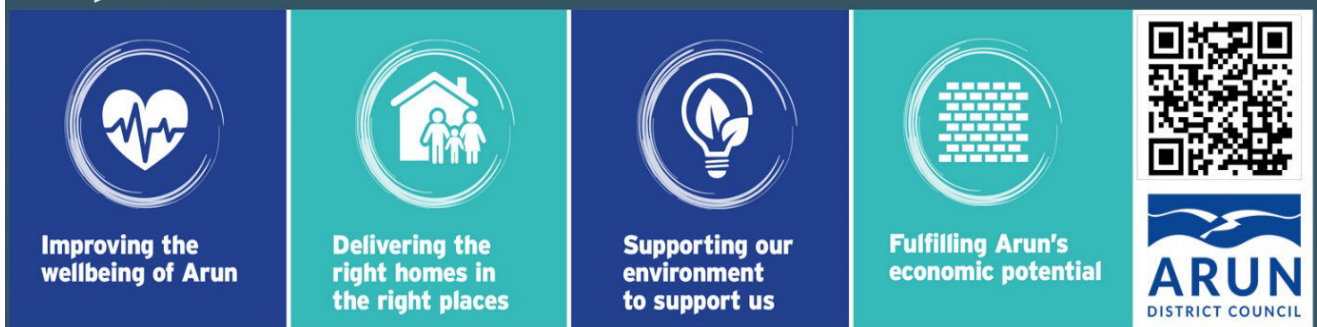
PL- consultation- tree officer response

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
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Our priorities...



From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 December 2025 17:27
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AL/108/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

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