

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: AL/25/21/T

Location: Westergate Mews, Nyton Road, Westergate, PO20 3YP

Description of works: Crown reduction to 1no. holm oak (T11) to height approx. 20m and lateral spread approx. 11m

Reasons given: To reduce risk of individual limb and branch failure

Comments on Application:

Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Height: 20-25m Radial spread: 10-15m Age class: Late mature

- Outwardly this tree appears to be in a generally fine physiological state and stable. It has a complex history of pruning and structural anomalies, typical of late mature examples of its type. It is large, aged and prominent. Although most obviously appreciated by those occupying/attending the mews it clearly has some public amenity value also.
- The applicant has employed Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd as agent to assess the tree and provide a report on its condition. This is comprehensive and recommends a suitable 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 specimen tree of significant landscape and public amenity value, 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 it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality.

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.

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 4 Diagrammatic illustration of crown reduction

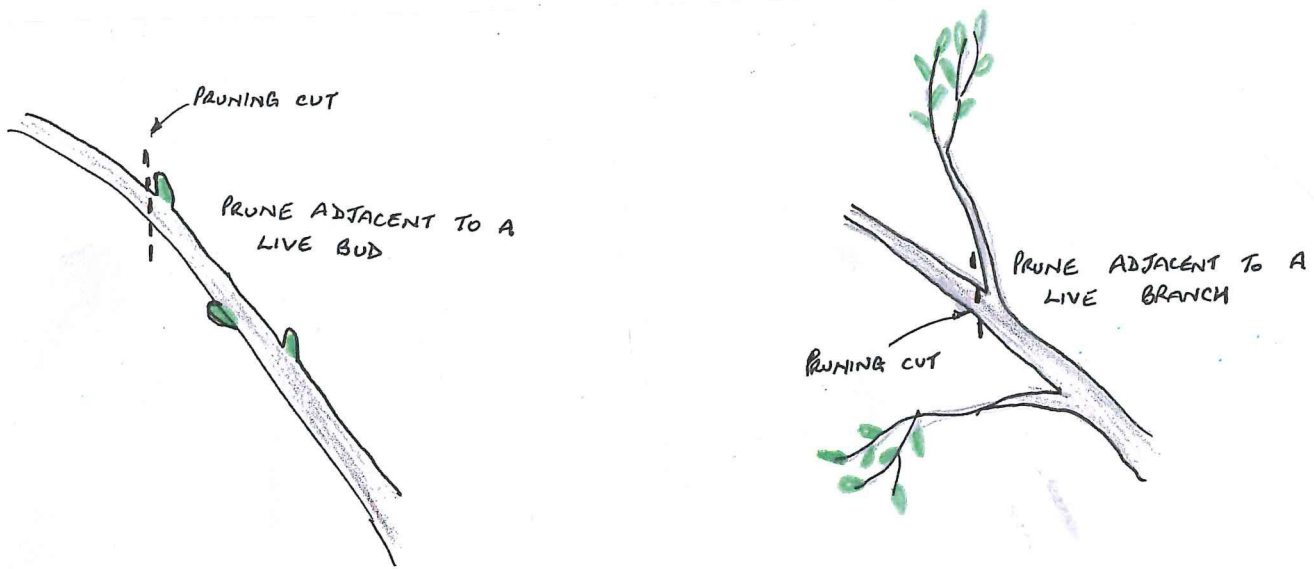
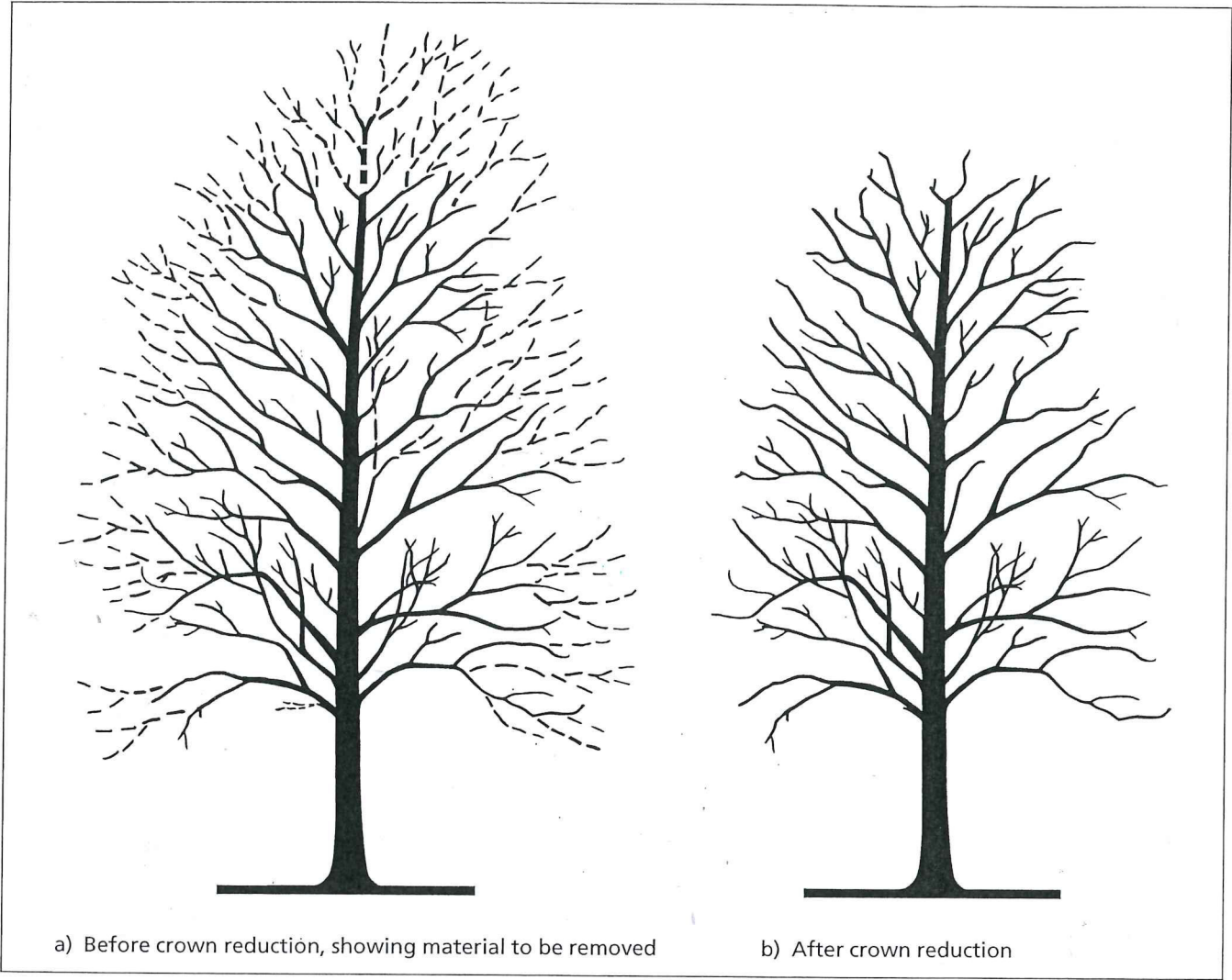


Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

