

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd

TO: Janice Chapman

PLANNING APPLICATION: AL/41/15/T

ADDRESS: Westergate Mews Nyton Road Westergate PO20 3YP

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Reduce tips of branches extending over car park & driveway to North by 2- 3m to 1 No Holm Oak tree.

INSPECTION DATE: 05/06/2015

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection ☐ No Objection ☒ Split Decision ☐

Comment ☒ Recommendation ☒ Suggested Conditions ☒

Tree Replacement ☐ Dead/Dangerous ☐ CA & Amenity Value ☐

T1 Species: Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* **Height:** 12 meters **Average Branch Spread:** 6 meters **Crown Condition:** fair **Form:** fair to poor **Age Class:** mature

Comments:

- The tree highlighted in the application is located along the main driveway to Westergate Mews. **T1** is visible from the main highway (A29) outside.
- From the site inspection, it is quite apparent there is a large wound present at 3.5 meters height on the main stem of **T1**. The applicant has stated there has been a climbing inspection completed of this wounding, which has found
- The applicant has applied to reduce the northern flank of **T1** by no more than 3 meters. From the site inspection it is also clear that the Northern flank of **T1** has already had a previous reduction. These previous reduction/s does emulate the applied for reduction.
- The applicant has justified the need for this pruning operation, as 'to further reduce likelihood of branch or stem failure resulting in injury or damage to property'. I would agree with this statement as from the site inspection it is clear that the basal area of **T1** has tapered heavily. This formation could lead to spiral cracks, hazard beams, and ribbing forming throughout the main stem. The applicants suggested reduction of 3 meters to the northern side, is likely to reduce the potential systemic failures occurring.

Recommendation:

- **I would have no objection to the proposed operation** of a reduction to the northern side of **T1**, of no more than 3 meters.
- **The following conditions must be adhered to;**

Conditions:**Crown Reduction**

All side branches to be retained should be at least **1/3rd** in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed **100mm** in diameter.

REASON: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Crown Clean

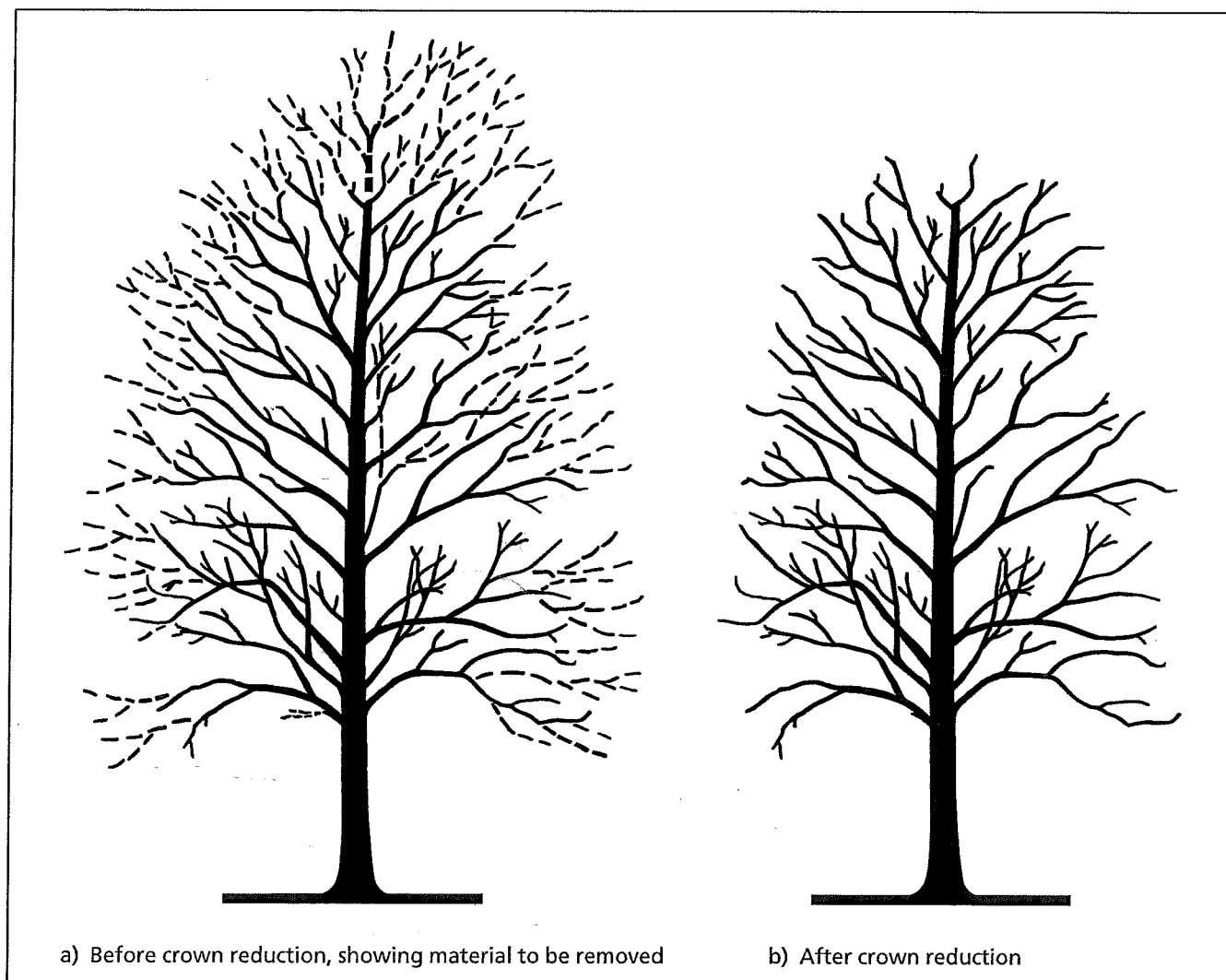
The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

REASON: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer

When specifying crown reduction and/or reshaping to create clearance from another structure or tree (see 7.8 and 7.9), the points between which the clearance will be measured should be stated.

Figure 4 Diagrammatic illustration of crown reduction



7.7.3 Follow-up work after crown reduction or reshaping

Following crown reduction or reshaping, the crown should generally be managed in accordance with one of the following objectives:

- to continue a phased programme of further crown reduction (see also Annex C);
- to maintain the reduced crown as a framework for cyclic management, whereby the new branches are periodically cut back close to their points of origin (as in pollarding; see 7.10);
- to establish a new framework by "shoot renewal pruning", so that the crown attains a relatively natural appearance but remains smaller than before the reduction or reshaping.

To achieve the last of the above objectives, the new branches should be tip-pruned and thinned so as to encourage the growth of secondary branches, which should in turn be pruned and thinned as required to maintain the desired shape, size and density of crown.

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

