

Planning Officer: Richard Temple

Planning Application: Various surgery to 1 No Holm Oak

Reference: **AL/49/17/T**

Location: **Westergate Mews, Nyton Road, Westergate**

Comments:

Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* Height : 18m Avge Sprd : 10m Age : Mature

- The applicants have employed Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd to inspect the trees and carrying out a VTA and advising them on a management strategy.
- This is an old mature tree that has undergone many pruning operations in the past including some very heavy topping out work.
- The Holm Oak appears as T11 in this report and I agree with Beechdowns conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions:

- The inspection has been thorough and the management strategy well reasoned and I agree with the conclusions and recommendations made in the Beechdown report – inclusive of the insertion of a non-invasive dynamic cable brace.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the works as listed in the Beechdown report namely :-
 1. Remove the tips of small diameter, low, hanging branches (dropper branches from larger diameter limbs) to raise the canopy and leave a 4m ground clearance.
 2. Reduce the tips of multi-stemmed regrowth from old pollard points on the southern stem by 1m to 1.5m with cuts no larger than 65mm diameter being formed.

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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 trees 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.*

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist