

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: AW/108/17/T

Location : Wychwood House, 1 Wychwood Walk, Aldwick

Description of works: Fell 1 No. Oak tree

Applicants Reasons Report by John Bentley claims tree is a safety liability and should be removed.

Comments On Application:

Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur* Height: 18m Avge Sprd: 7m Age: Early mature

- I inspected this tree and probed behind the bark wounding on the house side of the tree at ground level but there was no real depth to the decay (70-100mm in a few small localised places but otherwise 20mm around edges of visible wound).
- The wound extends up the trunk to 0.5m and is around 300mm wide and the exterior is for the most part solid – being an Oak this is a strong and durable species well able to cope with such injury - this is a superficial wound that does not undermine health or stability.
- There is a natural lean to the tree but again being an Oak I am not overly concerned about this.
- The crown is full and healthy with normal leaf size and good lustre - having regrown following on from a previous reduction exercise.

Conclusions:

- This tree is currently sound and healthy and its stability has not been compromised by the noted minor level of decay in the trunk.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** of this application seeking the felling of this tree as there are insufficient grounds to justify such action and it is a much valued tree in the landscape.

ADVISORY:

- If the applicant chooses to come back in with a maximum 2m crown reduction exercise then I would be minded to approve this course of action.



Consultant Arboriculturist