

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: AW/119/21/T

Location: 2 The Orchard, Aldwick, PO21 4HX

Description of works: Crown reduction to 1no. oak (T1) to previous points to a height of 15 metres. Crown reductions to 3no. silver birches (T2, T3, T4). T2 & T3 to a height of 12.5 metres to previous points and fell T4 causing path and wall damage

Reasons given: N/A

Comments on Application:

T1 Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Early mature
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T2, T3 & T4 Silver birch / <i>Betula pendula</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
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- None of the above trees are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. All are within the Aldwick Bay Conservation Area.
- Outwardly all trees appear to be in a fine physiological state. They have previously been reduced in height and spread.
- The birch trees form an attractive group which is highly visible from the main estate access road. T4 is strongly associated with a notable crack in the low party wall and severe disruption of brick paved garden path.
- The oak is visible from surrounding properties but only in part and with difficulty from publicly accessible land.
- Repeat crown reduction operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of T1, T2 & T3, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location.

Conclusions:

- All work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds.
- T1, T2 & T3 - The proposal to reduce overall height and spread with a view to restricting their growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority. While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendation:

- I raise **No Objection** to the works that have been applied for and see no reason to make a Tree Preservation Order in this instance.

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of tree **T1** is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the late spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed should only be undertaken during this period.
- The long-term vitality of T2 & T3 is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work should only be undertaken during these periods.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team