

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: **AW/128/20/T**

Location: **5 Barrack Lane, Aldwick, PO21 3AS**

Description of works: **Prune back to previous points excessive overhang to 14 and 16 Stanmore Gardens of 1no. holm oak tree**

Reasons given: Excessive overhang causing health and slip hazards

Comments on application:

Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Height: 5-10m Spread: 0-5m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state good health albeit with a modified crown. It is an important constituent of an established long line of trees straddling several properties, which provide visual amenity and screening.
- From a public perspective it is discreetly located within the expansive gardens of the owner's property, although by virtue of its size and evergreen foliage has significant presence when viewed from properties to the east.
- Branches overhang the rear access footway to 14 and 16 Stanmore Gardens and encroach into garden space. The careful reduction back of those branches is achievable without detriment to the tree's ongoing health and vitality.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. If 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 and visual amenity.
- The proposal to reduce selected branches on a specific aspect to maintain reasonable use of garden space/footway is justified and probably consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following conditions:

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.
- Part c) The removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established 'knuckles' so as not to extend beyond the point of origin.

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

Advisory:

- We are obliged to advise that where trees are situated on land not owned by the applicant the granting of consent by this authority does not by association give permission to undertake such works that require access onto/from that land. Nor does it permit any work to take place beyond the boundary of the applicant's property. Additional permission must first be obtained from the land/tree owner.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team