

Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner
Planning Application Ref: **AW/142/19/T**
Location: **127 Manor Way, Aldwick, West Sussex, PO21 4HN**
Description of works: **Fell 1 No. yew tree**
Reasons Given: Suppressed by larger trees

Comments on Application:

Yew / *Taxus baccata* Approx. height: 6m Average spread: 3m Age class: Early mature

- This tree appears to be outwardly healthy and stable. It has previously been subject to 'topping' (a crude truncation of the main stem) although it has grown-on well and presents an attractive crown profile.
- It occupies a central position along the front boundary of the property and although presently over-shadowed and crowded I anticipate it becoming prominent in time as neighbouring trees decline and are ultimately removed. It is visible in part from neighbouring properties and clearly to traffic accessing/exiting this part of the estate. As such, it has public amenity value.

Conclusions:

- I disagree with the assertion that this tree is suppressed. There is no doubt that competition exists among such types and density of tree stock; although the yew subject of this application is presently the highest quality tree among them and a much longer-term proposition. I conclude that the work proposed is not justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The tree is a valuable and potentially significant feature in the streetscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. Its removal would result in undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team