

Tree Survey Report and Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Holm Oak (*Quercus Ilex*) situated at the rear of 3 The Spinney, Aldwick. 6-10m in height. 4-5m canopy width. Some minor rot pockets to main trunk from past pruning, but no significant defects or sign of infection. Heavily pollarded, most recently c.2010 to approx. 3m in height.

Site address:

3 The Spinney
Aldwick
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO21 3RL

Survey date:

2019-04-20

As a result of repeated unsympathetic pollarding (although consented) this tree shows signs of significantly reduced vigour and is struggling to develop in its (sub) urban location. Additionally, the tree is considered to have outgrown its proximity to the property, dominating the centre of the rear garden and causing damage to hard landscaping features adjacent to the house.

The tree is causing excessive shading, drawing moisture and nutrients from the garden, and shedding a high volume of resistant leaves as is the nature of mature Holm Oaks. This in turn has already caused the demise of other trees and shrubs in the rear garden in recent past.

Having discussed the proposal on site with the District Tree Officer it is also questionable if this particular Holm Oak was present when the blanket TPO was enacted, and therefore if it was intentionally within the consideration or scope of the TPO. When viewed amongst the backdrop of the many other nearby trees which are dominant, mature, and healthy specimens protected under the same order, it is felt that this tree is of comparatively low amenity value, and that replanting two native trees (selected from the Royal Forestry Society Native Tree and Shrub Species Guide or similar) of a more appropriate scale and growing habit gives opportunity to improve the treescape and overall aspect of the nearby area.

Fred Horwill