

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: AW/143/20/T

Location: 4 Larchfield Close, Aldwick PO21 4RB

Description of works: Fell Monterey pine T-57

Reasons given: Needle drop, low amenity value, root-related trip hazards in garden

Comments on Application:

Monterey pine *Pinus radiata* Height: 5-10m Spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the documents submitted as well as online resources and drawn on my previous close assessment of the tree (Oct.2018).
- Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state. It grows at the rear of the property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings but only with difficulty from publicly accessible land. Its visual amenity has been ever more compromised by recent crown reduction pruning (c2015 and 2018), leading to a flat-topped appearance now wholly uncharacteristic of its species type.
- It retains high growth potential and future stem/buttress root expansion will occur despite any programme of cyclical reduction pruning.

Conclusion:

- The reasons given do not provide justification for the work proposed, although it must be recognised this is a tree fast outgrowing its location despite the history of severe pruning. It retains high growth potential and however managed could not recover true-to-species form or appreciable visual amenity.
- The garden enjoys a relatively high density and healthy stock of trees, the vast majority of which appear to have high growth potential and are in harmony with their surroundings.

Recommendation:

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

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team