

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin
Planning Application Ref: **AW/181/21/T**
Location: **106 Barrack Lane, Aldwick PO21 4EA**
Description of works: **Crown reduction to 4no. oak trees (T1, T2, T3 & T4) to height 7.9m and spread 3m. Crown reduction to 1no. oak tree (T4) to height 7.6m and spread 3m**
Reasons Given: 1. Maintain cyclical pruning regime 2. Improve clearance around access

Comments on Application:

4x Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Average height: 10m Average spread: 5m
Age class: Early mature

- Outwardly these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state but with heavily modified form.
- They grow to the front of the property effectively on roadside verge and are prominent. They are highly visible from the public highway (road, footway and commercial premises).
- All have been the subject of crown reduction pruning resulting in relatively small and compact limb/branch framework. This work was most recently undertaken late 2015/early 2016.

Conclusions:

- Cyclical crown reduction work throughout the remaining lifespan of these trees will be necessary to achieve a degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location.
- There is sufficient extension of new growth (generally 2metres+) since the last major pruning operation (c2015/16); so that repeat crown reduction at this time ought not to have a detrimental effect on their long-term vitality, if undertaken to a high standard and at the right time.

Recommendation:

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

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:

- The long-term vitality of these trees 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.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

