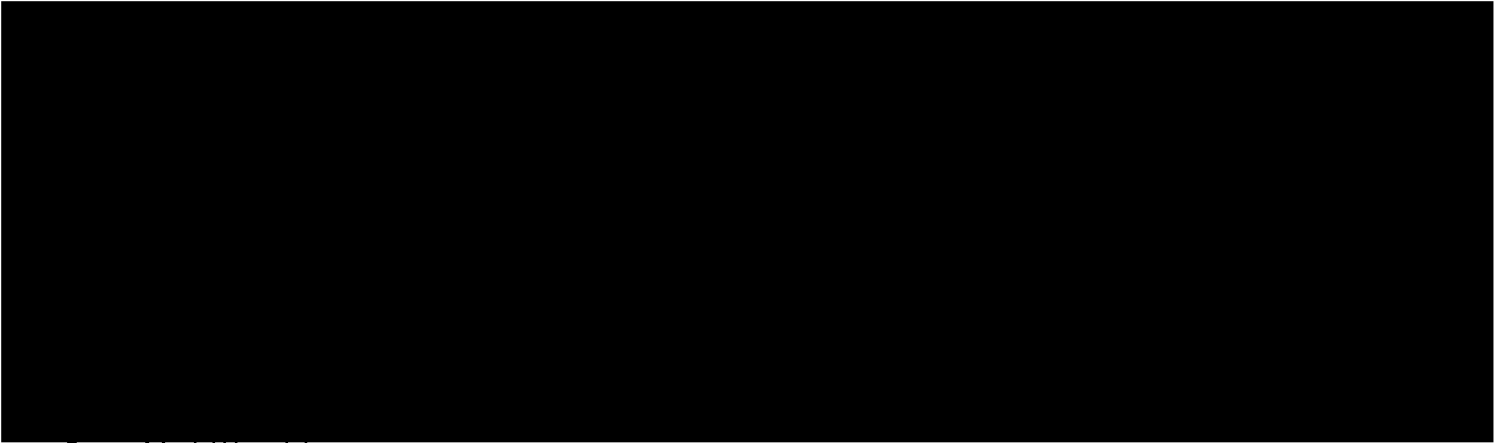




From: Mark Warwick
Sent: 22 August 2019 15:50
To: Amber Willard <Amber.Willard@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/200/19/T

Amber

Please find attached my comments/observations for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

Mark Warwick | Tree Officer, Greenspace, Arun District Council | Location: Bognor Regis Town Hall, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, West
Sussex, PO21 1LD

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Save the environment - think before you print.

Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner

Planning Application Ref: **AW/200/19/T**

Location: **Rear of 8 West Drive, Bognor Regis, PO21 4LY**

Description of works: **Remove limb and small branches overhanging boundary by approx. 4m of 1no. oak tree**

Reasons Given: To reduce shading over garden and reduce risk of falling debris

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Approx. height: 10m Average spread: 6m Age class: Mature

- The subject tree is recorded as T1398 on the Tree Preservation Order TPO/AW/276/10.
- It grows from the steep bank of a ditch/drain flanked on both sides by large garden plots. As such, those trees of similar age/species/size represent a significant landscape feature and constitute a valuable wildlife corridor between adjoining residential areas.
- I regard it as two separate trees, although for preservation and management purposes it can reasonably be considered as a whole. Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fair physiological state with some localised crown dieback observed. It grows at the rear of the property and can be seen clearly from surrounding properties although visible only in part from publicly accessible land.
- The removal of dead branches is an exception and does not require permission.
- The frequent discarding of small dead branches is typical of such aged examples of its type at coastal locations and not obviously associated with an underlying health condition.

Conclusions:

- I am unable to concur with the reasons stated as being sufficient to justify the work now proposed. There is no obvious blight on the property from excessive shading nor evidence submitted of an underlying health condition that might elevate the risk of harm to persons or property.
- The work proposed is unnecessarily severe and in places would result in a damaging loss of leaf-bearing volume, potentially leading to individual branch death.
- The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- As it stands, I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Advisory:

- I would like to see the applicant submit a revised work specification such as detailed below, which would seem to address their concerns in part whilst preventing a diminution of the tree's landscape and public amenity value:
 - Reduce radial spread on south, south east aspects only (over garden of 7 West Drive) by no more than 2m.

-
- If the applicant is prepared to re-submit in line with this advice, then I would be able to recommend APPROVAL subject to the following conditions:

Conditions to Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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
- 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.

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

