

Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner

Planning Application Ref: **AW/202/19/T**

Location: **Little Whispers, 17 Craigweil Manor, Aldwick, PO21 4DJ**

Description of works: **Crown reduction by 2.5m to 1no. holm oak tree.**

Reasons Given: Cyclical containment pruning to keep trees at size appropriate for residential plot

Comments on Application:

Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Approx. height: 8m Average spread: 3.5m Age class: Early mature

- The tree has achieved good symmetry and presents an attractive crown profile, having responded with vigour to past heavy reduction work.
- It is an established tree of apparent good health, visible from surrounding properties but not to users of the main estate access road.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining life-span of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- There will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works. While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.
- The proposal to reduce its overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Recommendations:

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

Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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.
- 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.
- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid to late-winter (January-February) period. The work must only be undertaken during this period.

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

