

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin
Planning Application Ref: **AW/211/20/T**
Location: **18 A'Becket's Avenue, Aldwick, PO21 5LY**
Description of works: **Crown reduction of 1No. Oak to height 16m and spread 16m**
Reasons given: None provided

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance this tree appears to be healthy and stable with a relatively unmodified and attractive crown profile. It is visible from surrounding properties and its high canopy can be seen by traffic (pedestrian and vehicle) accessing/exiting this part of the estate.
- It is an important constituent of an established line of oak trees which help define the character of the area and represent a significant public amenity.
- Current height and crown spread seem proportionate with its distance from nearby dwellings and not obviously problematic. Our records suggest some reduction of lateral spread will have occurred on the west aspect (c2013), approved under planning ref. AW/221/13/T.

Conclusions:

- A degree of 'containment pruning' may be appropriate in the future. Presently they are trees of high public amenity value and it appears they can be satisfactorily managed without recourse to overall crown reduction work.
- No reason has been given that might justify the work proposal on arboricultural grounds.

Recommendations:

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team