

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: **AW/212/21/T**

Location: **Holly Lodge, 3 Barrack Lane, Aldwick, PO21 4BY**

Description of works: **Various works to 2no. holm oak trees (T1 & T3) and 1no. sycamore tree (T2)**

Reasons given: To improve natural light levels into adjacent property and gardens

Comments on Application:

T1 & T3 Holm oak / <i>Quercus ilex</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
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T2 Sycamore / <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
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- For the purposes of reviewing this application; all three trees can be satisfactorily considered for generic comment, as follows:
- Outwardly and from a distance they appear to be healthy and stable. Despite their history of heavy and regular crown reduction they have 'grown-on well' (particularly T2) and their collective canopy makes a useful visual contribution. Canopy height, spread and overhead clearance is proportionate and not obviously problematic in relation to its surroundings.

Conclusions:

- The removal of dead or imminently dangerous branches is an exception and does not require permission, although in respect of the latter those works should only be to the extent that the immediate threat to person(s) or property is abated.
- Repeat crown reduction pruning operations will be necessary throughout the remaining life-span of these trees, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location. The proposal to reduce overall height and spread with a view to restricting their growth is consistent with previous applications (approved by the Local Planning Authority).

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) Where pollarding or crown reduction pruning has occurred previously, then 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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

