

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (

REF NO: **AW/238/14/T**

LOCATION: 7 Hornbeam Close
 Aldwick

PROPOSAL: Reduction of 4 No Chestnut trees to previous pruning & pollarding points

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above.
SITE AREA	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat.
TREES	The trees the subject of this application.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	Wall approximately 2m high to side and rear.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	The site is a single storey detached property with brick faced elevations and a conservatory to the rear.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	The site is located in a residential cul-de-sac containing properties of a similar style and design.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

N/A

REPRESENTATIONS

Representations received:

Aldwick Parish Council

Aldwick Parish Council:-

Members agreed that the Arun Arboriculturist is consulted regarding the application and that his recommendations/decisions is applied.

Comments on Representations received:

Comments Noted.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

Council's Arboriculturalist:-

Comments:

- Trees are situated within the Aldwick conservation area. The surrounding landscape has a rich diversity of varying species and age classes.

- The application has requested a reduction back to previous points. As stated on this application, this activity has already been completed historically.

- Once a tree has been reduced, it is important that the regrowth is not allowed to reach an incremental size where failures have an increased chance of occurring (according to the BS 3998).

Recommendation:

- It would therefore be my recommendation to allow this application to take place, if the following planning conditions are met.

Planning Conditions:

Crown Reduction

The Crown Reduction should not exceed the removal of single branch lengths which are greater than 1m from the periphery of the original crown diameter. The branch removals should leave healthy substantial leaf bearing side branches. All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

REASON

'In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of retaining good health and amenity in accordance with policy GEN7 of the Arun District Local Plan'.

CONDITION (BS3998 (2010) Section 7.10) Re-Pollarding

The pollarding cut should be made above a height to retain existing foliage/budding growth. The individual pollard branch must be shortened above a suitable lateral branch or by retaining a 300-600mm length live stub. The final pruning cut must be clean, smooth and perpendicular to the direction of the pollard branch.

REASON

'In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of retaining good health and amenity in accordance with policy GEN7 of the Arun District Local Plan'.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Comments noted

POLICY CONTEXT

Designation application to site:

ADOPTED LOC PLN
TREE PRES ORDER

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

Arun District Local Plan 2003:

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under References ID 36-090-20140306 and 36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

The trees are clearly visible within the street scene and make a contribution to the amenity of the local landscape.

However, it is identified by the Council's Arboriculturalist that the application seeks to reduce back to historic pruning points. Therefore, it is identified to be important that the regrowth is now allowed to reach an incremental size where failures have an increased chance of occurring (according to BS 3998).

Therefore, it is recommended that approval is granted for the proposed works subject to the following conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

- 1 The Crown Reduction should not exceed the removal of single branch lengths which are greater than 1m from the periphery of the original crown diameter. The branch removals should leave healthy substantial leaf bearing side branches. All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of retaining good health and amenity.

- 2 The pollarding cut should be made above a height to retain existing foliage/budding growth. The individual pollard branch must be shortened above a suitable lateral branch

or by retaining a 300-600mm length live stub. The final pruning cut must be clean, smooth and perpendicular to the direction of the pollard branch.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of retaining good health and amenity.

- 3 The burning of materials obtained by site clearance or from any other source shall not take place within 6 metres of the furthest extent of the canopy of any tree or group of trees to be retained on the site or on land adjoining.

Reason: To protect trees and vegetation from fire damage in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

- 4 The work hereby approved shall be undertaken under the supervision of the Local Planning Authority who shall be notified in writing, not less than 7 days before the work commences.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of amenity.

- 5 INFORMATIVE: The applicant should note that under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, with only a few exceptions, it is an offence for any person to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild birds while the nest is in use or being built. Birds nest between March and September and therefore removal of dense bushes, ivy or trees or parts of trees etc. during this period could lead to an offence under the act.

- 6 INFORMATIVE: This notice does not give authority to destroy or damage a bat roost or disturb a bat. Bat species are protected under Section 39 of the 1994 Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (as amended), the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) and the 2000 Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It is illegal to damage or destroy any bat roost, whether occupied or not, or disturb or harm a bat. If you are aware that bats roost in a tree(s) for which work is planned, you should take further advice from Natural England (via the Bat Conservation Trust on 0845 1300228) or an ecological consultant before you start. If bats are discovered during the work, you must stop immediately and contact Natural England before continuing.