

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin
Planning Application Ref: AW/247/20/T
Location: 36 Regis Avenue, Aldwick
Description of works: Re pollard to previous points 1No. Weeping willow tree
Reason given: Cyclical maintenance pruning
Comments on Application:

Golden weeping willow *Salix x sepulcralis* var *Chrysocoma* Height: 5-10m Spread: 0-5m Age: Early-mature

- Restricted view of tree, but condition of upper crown suggests it is in good physiological condition. It has been subject to heavy crown reduction work previously and has responded with vigour, typical for a healthy example of its type.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.
- The crown of this tree is periodically visible from surrounding properties and to users of the estate access road. The majority of this tree is obscured by boundary hedge.

Conclusion:

- If the work is undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on its long-term vitality.

Recommendation:

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

- 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) 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*

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the mid-summer (mid-June to mid-September) or mid-winter (mid-December to mid-February) periods.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

