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Sent: 11 November 2019 11:50
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Cc: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/249/19/T

Lynnyrd

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

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Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: AW/249/19/T

Location: Robinel, 2 Fernhurst Gardens, Bognor Regis, PO21 4AZ

Description of works: Fell 1no. sycamore tree

Reasons Given: Health and safety

Comments on Application:

Sycamore / *Acer pseudoplatanus* Approx. height: 15m Average spread: 4m Age class: Mature

- This tree grows along the boundary of the property and is prominent roadside. It can be seen from surrounding properties and the public highway (footway and carriageway).
- It appears outwardly and from a distance to be in a fine physiological state and with attractive crown profile, having developed multiple stems from near ground level. As such, it has public amenity value.
- On closer inspection, it is clear that one of the stems has fractured and detached - it is being supported from falling by an adjacent tree. There is an established and ongoing significant decay event evidenced by large fungal brackets, which has the potential to affect adjacent stems (if not already).
- There exists a duty to replant should this application be approved. The applicant has proposed to replant nearby with a hornbeam; a welcome and complementary tree type.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. The structural integrity of the whole is most likely to be compromised to the extent that it presents an unacceptable level of risk for its location, therefore it is prudent to carry out the proposed work.
- There will be some loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works, although there is a healthy population of adjacent trees which should flourish and alongside the replacement specimen tree provide adequate long-term compensation.

Recommendations:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

1. Once the tree has been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within 4metres. This is to be of Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the sycamore tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Wild cherry *Prunus avium*

Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team