

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: AW/252/21/T

Location: 23 West Avenue, Aldwick, PO21 3QP

Description of works: 1no. oak (T1) - Reduce tree by 2 metres all round leaving 8m spread all around

Reason given: None provided

Comments on Application:

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

- This is an established tree of apparent good health. It has been the subject of several crown modifications resulting in a dense, compact form. It is visible from numerous properties and to users of the public highway (footway and carriageway).
- There has been 1-2metres of growth since the last crown reduction. I cannot say the proposal to reduce its overall height and spread is consistent with previous work approved by the Local Planning Authority as I have not been able to retrieve a past permission for that operation.

Conclusions:

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

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 crown reduction pruning has occurred previously, then the removal/reduction of branches which have 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 tree's 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 the late spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed should only be undertaken during this period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

