

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: **AW/258/20/T**

Location: **27 The Drive, Aldwick, PO21 4DU**

Description of works: **Crown reduction of 1No. holm oak tree to height 5m and spread 3m. Crown reduction to height 10m and spread 8m, and crown thin by 15% 1No. Eucalyptus tree**

Reasons given: None provided

Comments on Application:

Note: Tree numbers below (eg.T1) are for the sole purpose of interpreting this application (no tree reference numbers were provided) and have no relationship (intended or otherwise) with those referred to elsewhere, such as may be recorded on any Tree Preservation Order

T1 - Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Approx. height: 6m Average spread: 3m Age class: Semi mature

T2 - Eucalyptus / *Eucalyptus sp.* Approx. height: 12m Average spread: 5m Age class: Early mature

- **T1** is not affected by any Tree Preservation Order but is growing within the Aldwick Bay Conservation Area and of sufficient size (stem diameter at 1.0m ht. is >75mm) to enjoy Statutory Protection. As such, we can consider this element of the application as a Sect. 211 Notice (Notice of intent to undertake works to a tree in Conservation Area).
- **T2** is prominent at the front of the property and visible from adjacent properties and to traffic on the estate road and path. It appears to be in fine physiological condition and has grown-on well following past crown reduction pruning.
- 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.

Conclusions:

- **T1** - I am satisfied that the work proposed will not result in character of the surrounding area being diminished. I raise no objection to the works that have been applied for and see no reason to make an individual Tree Preservation Order to preserve its place in the landscape and/or control its management.
- **T2** - While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.
- There should be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** 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 (T2), 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

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of tree **T1** is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid to late winter period (January to February). The work proposed should only be undertaken during this period.
- The long-term vitality of tree **T2** 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

