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

REF NO: **AW/266/14/T**

LOCATION: 1 Waters Edge
Aldwick

PROPOSAL: Repollard to previous pollard points 5 No Poplar trees

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	N/A
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (NET)	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat
TREES	The Poplar trees the subject of this application.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	Front is open to the highway, side boundaries close boarded fencing with hedging, rear boundary has group of Poplar trees.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Detached two storey dwelling with detached double garage on side with paved driveway. The property has reddish/brown brickwork on lower level, tile hanging on upper level with a red tiled roof.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Residential comprising detached two storey properties of various styles and designs.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

AW/8/95/T	Pollard 11 Poplar trees	ApproveConditionally 29-03-1995
BR/450/81/T	To fell two pine trees	ApproveConditionally 17-06-1981

REPRESENTATIONS

Representations received:

Aldwick Parish Council

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

Comments on Representations received:

Comments noted
See Tree Officer's recommendation.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

Tree Officer

Species: Popular Populus spp Height: 14 m Average Crown Spread: 3 m Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: early mature

The outlined trees are situated in the high amenity landscape of Aldwick. The surrounding landscape has a rich mix of differing species and age classes. The outlined trees are not visible to the public from the highway/pavement outside.

From the site visit it is clear that the outlined poplar trees have been 'pollarded' a number of times (this can be determined from the diameter size of the regrowth present vs the incremental size of the stem). The host trees have responded well, and there is little sign of decay/pathogens present in the stems.

Pollarding requires repeated cycles of pruning to manage the regrowth. This pruning is important as it prevents the regrowth getting too large and therefore increasing the chance of failures occurring at the regrowth unions.

The outlined trees have clearly been repeatedly pollarded, so therefore best practise would dictate to continue the pruning regime.

As the outlined operation is in the interest of the outlined trees I would have no objection to the proposed operation of re-pollarding the outlined trees to the previous pruning points.

Condition To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -
Where whole branches are to be removed final cuts close to the trunk or branch union are to be made as shown in Figure 2 of BS3998:2010 and all shortened branches are to be cut at the correct angle (see also BS3998:2010) and adjacent to a live bud or lateral.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Tree Officer comments noted

POLICY CONTEXT

Designation applicable to site:

Built Up Area Boundary
Tree Preservation Order
No Public Sewer

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 ID 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 Poplar trees are sited on the rear boundary and are not readily visible to the front of the site but can be viewed from neighbouring gardens.

The trees have been pollarded a number of times and the application seeks to repollard the trees back to the previous pollard points. The Tree Officer has recommended that as the trees have been repeatedly pollarded then this practice should continue.

It is therefore recommended to approve the application, subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

1 The works hereby approved shall involve:

Repollard to previous pollard points 5 no. Poplar trees.
All works to be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Work.

Where whole branches are to be removed final cuts close to the trunk or branch union are to be made as shown in Figure 2 of BS3998:2010 and all shortened branches are to be cut at the correct angle (see also BS3998:2010) and adjacent to a live bud or lateral.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and amenity.

2 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.

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 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.

5 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.