

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: **AW/266/18/T**

Location: **Trotyn Croft, Aldwick Felds, Aldwick, PO21 3TX**

Description of works: **Fell 1No. Sycamore**

Reasons Given: Tree in terminal decline

Comments on Application:

Sycamore / *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: Approx. 16m Average spread: 5m Age class: Mature

- A tree visible from surrounding properties and an important constituent of a valuable tree group retained during development.
- Limited visibility from publicly accessible land but important for screening and contribution to local high canopy.
- Presents an attractive crown profile but on close inspection is clearly under stress from probable bark/cambium infection with associated high deadwood content and there is a notable structural defect in the main stem.

Conclusions:

- This tree has an attractive crown profile but is showing clear signs of physiological decline and structural defect. There is no remedial option that would prolong the life of this tree in a dignified state and be appropriate for its location.
- The work proposal has been justified on arboricultural grounds.

Recommendations:

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

Condition To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

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:-

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

Wild cherry *Prunus avium*

Pillar apple *Malus tschonoskii*

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

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team