

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: **AW/267/20/T**

Location: **Wynard, 47 Kingsway, Aldwick, PO21 4DN**

Description of works: **1No. mature sycamore (T1) - Reduce height to 10m and spread 6m. 1No. semi mature sycamore (T4) - Reduce height to 8m and spread to 5m**

Reason given: T1 – Starting to overpower the surrounding trees, T4 – Potential to dominate garden

Comments on Application:

T1 Sycamore / <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Height: 10-15m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Early mature
T4 Sycamore / <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Height: 5-10m	Spread: 0-5m	Age class: Semi mature

- **T1** is an established tree of apparent good health albeit with a heavily modified crown. It is highly visible from numerous properties and to traffic on the main estate access road.
- 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.
- **T4** appears to be in fair physiological condition and has moderate form having been previously ‘topped’. It makes only a small contribution to the street scene and character of the wider area.
- Such work as proposed will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- **T1 and T4** - The proposal to reduce their overall height and spread with a view to restricting growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- 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.

Recommendations:

- 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 pollarding or reduction pruning has occurred previously, 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 these trees is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work should only be undertaken during these periods.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

