

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 5th January 2026

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper
Reference: AW/269/25/T
Location: 53 Old Place, Aldwick, PO21 3AX
Proposal: Crown reduction to 1no. oak (T1) to leave a height of 15m and spread of 10m.
Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i>	Height: 15-20m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
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Outwardly and from distance (rear service alley, restricted view) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state (and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided or statement made to the contrary).

It has been the subject of whole crown reduction pruning on several occasions, last undertaken c2021. There is 1-2metres of new growth from established knuckles. Although repeat work is sought relatively early in the pruning cycle, the tree should tolerate that if it possesses sufficient vitality. The timing of such work is important to give it the best chance of recovery.

Conclusions:

This is a long-established tree of apparent good health albeit with a heavily modified crown. It is highly visible from numerous properties and in part from publicly accessible land. While it may have potential to outgrow its location particularly if left unchecked; it remains an important constituent of an established local population of oak trees which help define the character of the area and represent a significant public amenity.

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.

Recommendation:

We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

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 work has occurred previously, the removal of subsequent growth (shoots and branches) and position of final cuts must ensure retention of all established knuckles.

Reasons: In the interest 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

Informative:

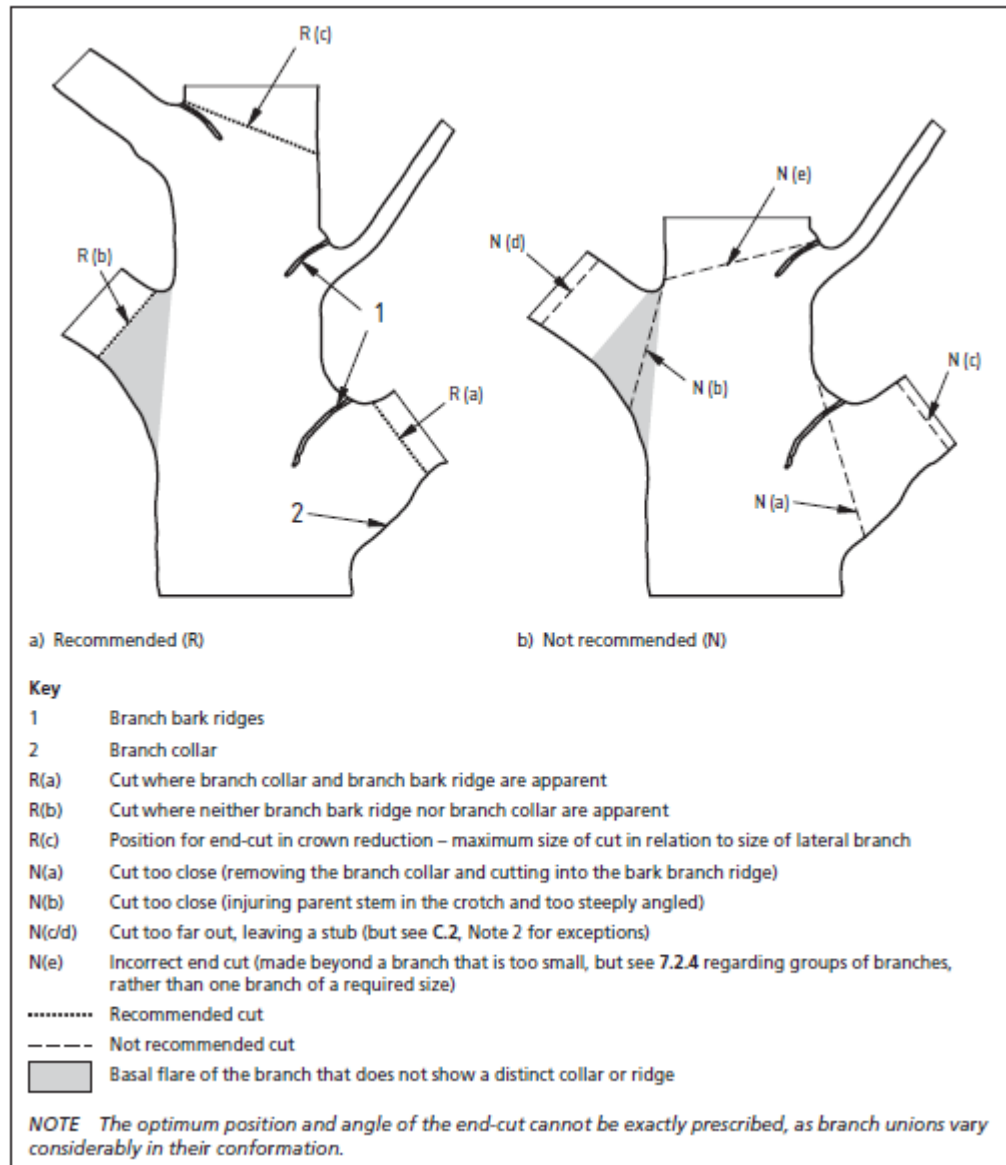
Hard pruning creates numerous and/or large wounds, incurring a physiological stress which may affect long-term health and vitality. The optimum time for pruning deciduous oak trees is late spring to summer (May to August).

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

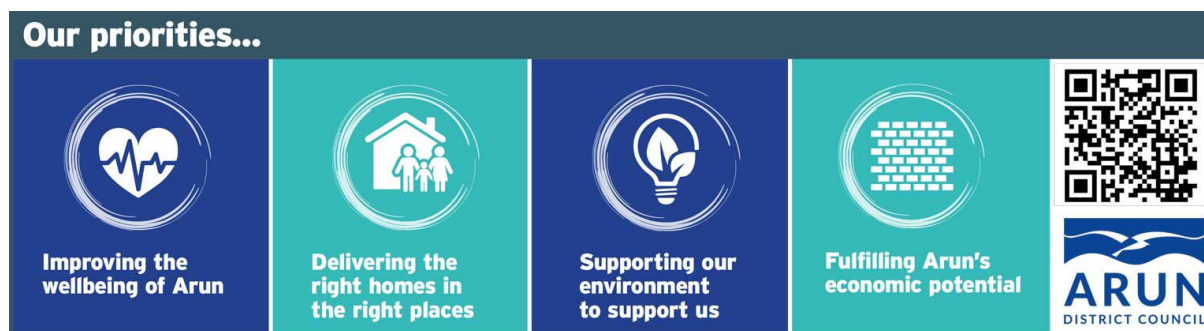
Figure 2 Positions of final cuts



PL- consultation- tree officer response

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 January 2026 10:10
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/269/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
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