

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin
Planning Application Ref: **AW/275/20/T**
Location: **10 Barrack Lane, Aldwick, PO21 4BZ**
Description of works: **Fell 1No. Silver birch tree (T1) and grind out stump**
Reasons given: Dead tree

Comments on Application:

Silver birch / *Betula pendula* Height: 10-15m Spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information and plans submitted as well as online resources.
- The applicant has employed Arun Tree Company Ltd as agent to assess the tree and provide a brief report on its condition. The tree has been confirmed dead.
- Although several factors, including that beyond the reasonable control of any party have been identified as responsible for this tree's rapid decline; it should be noted that as recently as January 2019 was seen to be in good condition. The tree was a fine example of its type and efforts were made to secure its retention during recent development of the site. A Tree Preservation Order was made to secure its place in the landscape and control management thereafter.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds (health and safety).
- The tree was both a notable feature in the landscape and given adequate room to remain in harmony with development plans, so will need to be replaced.

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 3metres.

This is to be of Standard Nursery Stock proportions (min. 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 silver birch tree.

The species selected shall be of the following type: - **Silver birch *Betula pendula***

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team