

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: **AW/277/20/T**

Location: **52 Aldwick Avenue, Aldwick, PO21 3AQ**

Description of works: **Reduce crown of 1no. tulip tree height 9.5m and spread 7m. Reduce crown of 1no. bay tree to height 7.5m and spread 4.5m. Reduce crown of 1no. silver birch tree to height 5.5m and spread 3.5m**

Reasons given: To allow more light into the garden

Comments on Application:

- There is no silver birch tree growing at the location shown, nor anywhere in the front garden of this plot and which is the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. As such, work proposed to item T3 (assumed to be the birch 2.5m due south of the applicant's driveway and not that which overhangs from neighbouring 56 Aldwick Avenue) does not require consent from the local planning authority.

T1 Tulip tree / <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
T2 Bay / <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature

- Both trees appear outwardly and from distance (roadside) to be in a fine physiological state and assumed to be so in the absence of any information/evidence provided to the contrary. They have previously been the subject of crown reduction pruning and thinning.
- Both are visible from surrounding properties and to users of the estate access road. As such, they have some public amenity value.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of these trees, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location.

Conclusions:

- 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.

Recommendation:

- 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 crown 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*

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

