

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: **AW/279/20/T**

Location: **128 Manor Way, Aldwick, PO21 4HN**

Description of works: **Crown reduction to height 8m and spread 6m 2No. conifer trees**

Reason(s) given: None provided

Comments on Application:

T1 & T2 Monterey cypress / *Cupressus macrocarpa* Approx. height: 12m Average radial spread: 6m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance both trees appear to be in a fair physiological state and free from any obvious significant structural defect. They exhibit unmodified and attractive upper crown profiles.
- They grow alongside the dwelling and are most prominent when viewed from Tithe Barn Way, a short section of estate road notable for its conifer tree-lined character – of which these trees are notable constituents. As such, they have public amenity value and contribute to the character of the area.
- In the absence of any documentation to the contrary, I have determined from size alone that neither tree would have been established at the time the sole Tree Preservation Order affecting this plot was made (1958). They are growing within the Aldwick Bay Conservation Area and of sufficient size (stem diameter at 1.0m ht. >75mm) to enjoy Statutory Protection. As such, we can consider this application as a Sect. 211 Notice (Notice of intent to undertake works to a tree in Conservation Area).

Conclusions:

- These trees require careful management that respects their age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression.
- There is no obvious arboricultural justification for the work proposed. An operation to reduce both the height and lateral spread on all aspects (the correct interpretation of *crown reduction*) by 4m and 3m respectively would not comply with 'British Standard (BS3998:2010) Tree work – Recommendations' and be likely to result in significant harm to the health and vitality of the trees with large pruning wounds being formed as well as undermining their visual amenity value and impact in the landscape. It may ultimately lead to their destruction.

Recommendation:

- I register an **Objection** to this proposal and **recommend the making of a Tree Preservation Order** to preserve the trees place in the landscape and better control their future management. I attach a TEMPO form and GIS plan for this purpose.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team