

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton
Planning Application Ref: **AW/280/18/T**
Location: **10 Faresmead, Aldwick PO21 3DQ**
Description of works: **Reduce 3No. Hornbeams by 3m**
Reasons Given: None given

Comments on Application:

3x Hornbeam / *Carpinus betulus* Height: Approx.10m Average spread: 3.5m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state and form part of an established boundary tree group.
- The central tree is dominant and despite having multiple stems, presents an attractive crown profile. The two companion trees on either side are slightly suppressed but nevertheless are constituent parts of the group and important for its cohesion.
- They grow at the rear of the property and can be seen from surrounding properties and public highway (road and footway). They are a good distance from dwellings and do not present any obvious problems.
- The applicant proposes a 3metre reduction, which must be assumed to apply to both top height and lateral spread. If the full extent of meterage is applied on all aspects this would exceed the recommendations in British Standard 3998:2010 – Tree Work.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is severe and if enacted to the maximum extent of 3m on all aspects would result in damaging loss of crown volume. It has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The trees are an established feature in the local landscape and appear to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team