

**Planning Officer:** Charlotte Easton

**Planning Application Ref:** AW/283/18/T

**Location:** The Water Tower, 16 Craigweil Manor, Aldwick PO21 4DJ

**Description of works:** Crown reduction to 1No. Oak tree by pruning approx 1m of growth back to the previous pruning points. Crown balance of 1No. yew tree by removing 0.5m from the branches overhanging the lawn and 1m from the branches comprising north & east sector. Crown reduction by approx 2m of 1No. Sycamore tree to previous pruning points.

**Reasons Given:** 1. Excessive shading of garden 2. Obstructing passage of high-sided vehicles

**Comments on Application:**

|                                                  |                    |                      |                         |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>T1 Pedunculate oak</b> / <i>Quercus robur</i> | Height: Approx.12m | Average spread: 3.5m | Age class: Early mature |
| <b>T2 Yew</b> / <i>Taxus baccata</i>             | Height: Approx.9m  | Average spread: 2.5m | Age class: Early mature |
| <b>T3 Sycamore</b> / <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>  | Height: Approx.12m | Average spread: 3.5m | Age class: Early mature |

- Outwardly and from a distance these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state. They grow at the rear of the property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings.
- T1 and T3 have previously been the subject of severe crown reduction work resulting in a balanced but visually diminished form.
- T2 is the lesser of the three trees and is mildly suppressed beneath the crown of T1. The intent to balance its asymmetric crown profile to both formalise its shape and clear the adjacent access road is understandable.

**Conclusions:**

- T1 and T2 - 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.
- If the work is undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality and visual amenity.

**Recommendations:**

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following conditions:

**Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -**

- 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
- 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.
- 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.
- The long-term vitality of T1 and T3 is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (mid-December to mid-February) periods. The work proposed for these two trees must only be undertaken during these periods.

**Reasons:** In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team