

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (

REF NO: **AW/311/15/T**

LOCATION: Sea Glimpse
 3 Woodstock Gardens
 Aldwick

PROPOSAL: Reduce height of crown of 1No. Sycamore by 3m & spread by 2m & fell 1No. Sycamore.

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

This application seeks to confirm that a repeat of previous works to one tree and the felling of another dead is acceptable. The proposed are as specified above.

TOPOGRAPHY

Predominantly flat.

TREES

The trees affected by this proposal. There are other mature trees in the locality, but these are unaffected.

BOUNDARY TREATMENT

The boundary in the area of the subject trees is a mature and substantial hedge of 2m+ in height.

SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The site is occupied by a bungalow. The subject trees are located on the boundary of its modest rear garden.

CHARACTER OF LOCALITY

The character of the area is residential with a mixture of house types, in a mature landscaped setting.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

AW/235/00/T	Fell two sycamore trees	ApproveConditionally 12-01-2001
AW/241/01/T	Fell two Sycamore trees, and prune the remaining four Sycamore trees.	ApproveConditionally 10-01-2002
AW/283/11/T	Fell 1 no. Sycamore & reduce crown to 1 no. Sycamore by 2m.	ApproveConditionally 20-12-2011

None.

REPRESENTATIONS

Representations received:

Aldwick Parish Council

Aldwick Parish Council raises no objection and comments:

Members agreed that the Arun Arboriculturist is consulted regarding the application and that his recommendations/decision is applied.

No representations have been received from nearby occupiers.

Comments on Representations received:

None.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

The Councils Tree Officer raises no objection and comments:

T1 Species: Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 11 meters Average Branch Spread: 2.5 meters

Crown Condition: poor Form: fair to poor Age Class: mature

T2 Species: Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 11 meters Average Branch Spread: 2.5 meters

Crown Condition: poor Form: fair to poor Age Class: mature

Comments:

- The trees outlined in this application are located in the rear garden of 3 Woodstock Gardens.
- For T1 the applicant has applied to reduce the height by 3 meters and the lateral spread by 2 meters. From the site inspection it is evident that T1 has had historic reduction/s that emulates the proposed pruning operation.
- For T2, the applicant has applied to fell this specimen. From the site inspection it is evident that T2 is standing dead.

Recommendation:

- I would no objection to the proposed operation.

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

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

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

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

Crown Lift

Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

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

Comments on Consultation responses:

The Tree Officers comments can be addressed by conditions.

POLICY CONTEXT

Within Built Up Area
Area of Special Character
Tree Preservation order

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

[Arun District Local Plan 2003:](#)

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

NPPF
NPPG

National Planning Policy Framework
National Planning Practice Guidance

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under references ID 36-090-20140306 and ID 36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

These 2 trees are located in the rear garden of the application dwelling. They are visible from surrounding dwellings in the vicinity sand from Aldwick Place to the south. They are not however significant trees in the landscape and whilst they make a contribution visually, they do not make a

significant contribution to the visual amenity of the area.

The felling of the dead tree cannot be objected too, it makes no real contribution to amenity and will in any event decay and will be lost.

The works to the other sycamore represent good tree husbandry to ensure the future wellbeing of the tree. Its amenity value will be retained.

It is therefore recommended that the application be approved, subject to the following conditions and informatives:

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

- 1 The work hereby approved shall be undertaken under the supervision of the Local Planning Authority who shall be notified in writing, not less than 7 days before the work commences.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of amenity.

- 2 The burning of materials obtained by site clearance or from any other source shall not take place within 6 metres of the furthest extent of the canopy of any tree or group of trees to be retained on the site or on land adjoining.

Reason: To protect trees and vegetation from fire damage in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

- 3 All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

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

- 4 The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

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

- 5 Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

REASON: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with

current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

- 6 INFORMATIVE: The applicant should note that under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, with only a few exceptions, it is an offence for any person to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild birds while the nest is in use or being built. Birds nest between March and September and therefore removal of dense bushes, ivy or trees or parts of trees etc. during this period could lead to an offence under the act.
- 7 INFORMATIVE: This notice does not give authority to destroy or damage a bat roost or disturb a bat. Bat species are protected under Section 39 of the 1994 Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (as amended), the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) and the 2000 Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It is illegal to damage or destroy any bat roost, whether occupied or not, or disturb or harm a bat. If you are aware that bats roost in a tree(s) for which work is planned, you should take further advice from Natural England (via the Bat Conservation Trust on 0845 1300228) or an ecological consultant before you start. If bats are discovered during the work, you must stop immediately and contact Natural England before continuing.