

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: AW/315/20/T

Location: 28A Kingsway, Aldwick, PO21 4DH

Description of works: Fell 1no. oak (T1) to ground level as being suppressed by neighbouring maple (T2) and holly (T3). Fell 1no. Norway maple (T2) to ground level as being suppressed by (T1) and (T2) Fell 1no. holly (T3) to ground level as growing into (T1) and (T2) and as a group of trees making the garden look messy and overcrowded. Fell 3no. Pittosporum (T4) to ground level as structural issues within the tree are showing and as a group of shrubs they are getting overgrown. Replanting in the zones of (T1,2&3) 1No. 2.5-3m English oak. also replanting in the zones of (T4) 2No. 2.5-3m silver birch and 2No. 2.5-3m beech

Reasons given: As described above

Comments on Application:

T1 Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Semi mature
T2 Norway maple / <i>Acer platanoides</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
T3 Holly / <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
T4 3x Kohuhu / <i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Mature

- Collectively the above trees provide a dense verdant frontage to the plot, although none individually have special merit. All enjoy statutory protection by virtue of their being established trees and within Conservation Area. T2 and T4 are also the subject of Tree Preservation Order (TPO/AW/1/16).
- T1, T2 & T3 are closely spaced with subsequent asymmetric form but collectively a visually significant crown profile. All have previously been the subject of hard reduction pruning, with an abrupt truncation of their main stems and limb framework. Although they are relatively young trees and appear to have responded with vigour, they will require repeat pruning throughout their lifespan to achieve adequate structural integrity for this location.
- T4 captures a group or cluster planting of Kohuhu large shrubs/small trees, one of which has been made the subject of an Order (TPO). It is not clear from my view (roadside) if it could be determined on close inspection. Nonetheless, they too appear to have been the subject of such hard reduction pruning that their useful life expectancy has been substantially compromised. They are constituents of a dense evergreen screen which also includes cherry laurel as a dominant type.
- Replacement tree planting proposal is welcome although only stated in principle. No detailed planting plan has been provided. The existing legislation allows the local planning authority to demand two replacement trees by way of a condition.

Conclusions:

- Reasons given for the proposed work are largely subjective and the substantial loss of trees and shrubs from the front boundary will be keenly felt, especially should construction get underway (AW/155/17/PL).
- No trees are worthy of additional protection by the making of a new Tree Preservation Order. Those trees which are the subject of TPO can be replaced with superior trees that provide greater landscape value in time. This may be the ideal opportunity to secure those replacements for the benefit of the wider community (public amenity).
- The applicant's desire to introduce replacement trees (oak, birch and beech) will hopefully be implemented and enhance that which we can secure by condition.

Recommendation:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- Once trees T2 and T4 have been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then replacement trees are to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within 3metres, as shown on the embedded plan (Fig.1).

They are to be of Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

They are to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the Norway maple and Kohuhu trees.

The species shall be selected from the following: -

Silver birch *Betula pendula*, as replacement for T2

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, as replacement for T4

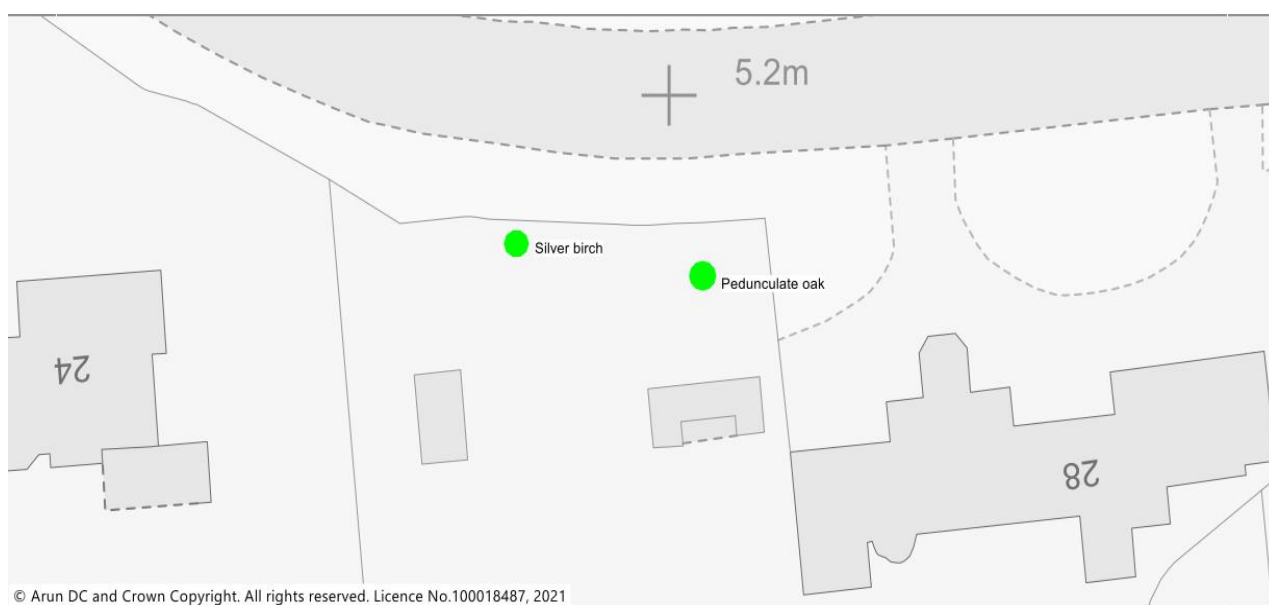


Figure 1. Approximate position of replacement trees following removal of T2 Norway maple and T4 Kohuhu

- Reasons:** To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team