

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: AW/322/19/T

Location: Strawberry Cottage, Cypress Way, Aldwick, PO21 4DF

Description of works: Reduce laterals on northside away from property by 2-3m to 1no. field maple tree. Reduce 2 tops height by 6m and remainder limbs up to 2m to match and deadwood 1no. oak tree

Reasons given: Building clearance

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i> TPO ref. T-269	Height: 15-20m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
---	----------------	---------------	-------------------

Field maple / <i>Acer campestre</i> TPO ref. G-271	Height: 10-15m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
--	----------------	---------------	-------------------

- All trees appear from distance to be in a fair physiological state and generally stable. They are highly visible from surrounding property and in part from publicly accessible land.
- The multi-stemmed oak has lost a large portion of its dominant central leading stem, from which a healthy quantity of epicormic growth has established. Small branches and twigs growing from outer limbs display low-moderate density of shoots/buds. The crown profile is open, irregular and would benefit from a slight reduction to encourage balanced canopy renewal and greater visual amenity.
- The group of five field maple are an attractive feature, that rely on each other for mutual support. The northernmost tree is the obvious and intended subject of the application, being nearest to the dwelling.
- The removal of dead branches is an exception and does not require permission or notification from/to the local planning authority.

Conclusions:

- All work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. These are prominent trees of public and visual amenity and are to be carefully pruned to maintain reasonable enjoyment of residential property and with respect for natural tree form.
- **Oak TPO ref. T-269**
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.

Recommendations:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

Part a) 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

Part b) 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.

Part c) **Field maple TPO ref. G-271**

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.

Part d) The long-term vitality of both trees is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the late-spring to summer (May to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work 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.

- See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

