

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: **AW/323/18/T**

Location: **2 The Lawn, Aldwick PO21 4XJ**

Description of works: **Fell & remove 1No. Hornbeam tree & reduce by 5m over highway & 2m from boundary 1No. Hornbeam tree**

Reasons Given: None provided

Comments on Application:

3x Hornbeam / *Carpinus betulus*

Height: Approx.12m

Average spread: 6m

Age class: Mature

- Trees form a linear evenly spaced grouping. They are even-aged with similar form but of varying condition. They grow outside of the main garden and appear to be on a roadside verge; as such they are an established and prominent feature in the local street scene.
- A pre-application meeting was held between the applicant, adjacent resident and local authority tree officer on 5th November. At this time, a mutually agreeable management plan was discussed and this is reflected in the work proposal being considered here, although it requires clarification, as I describe below:
- It is proposed to undertake the following work to the southernmost tree: 1. Crown lift to achieve maximum 5metres overhead clearance above the carriageway. 2. Reduce back lateral extent (west aspect only) by maximum 2metres.
- It is proposed to fell the middle tree to ground level. This tree appears to be under considerable physiological distress arising from probable fungal infection low in the main stem/roots, with associated high deadwood content across the upper crown.
- The northernmost tree has not been proposed for any pruning work

Conclusions:

- If the pruning 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.
- The works proposed are justified on arboricultural grounds and there will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.
- A replacement tree for that felled will not be necessary at this time, although further planting would be following future demise of either companion tree.

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.

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

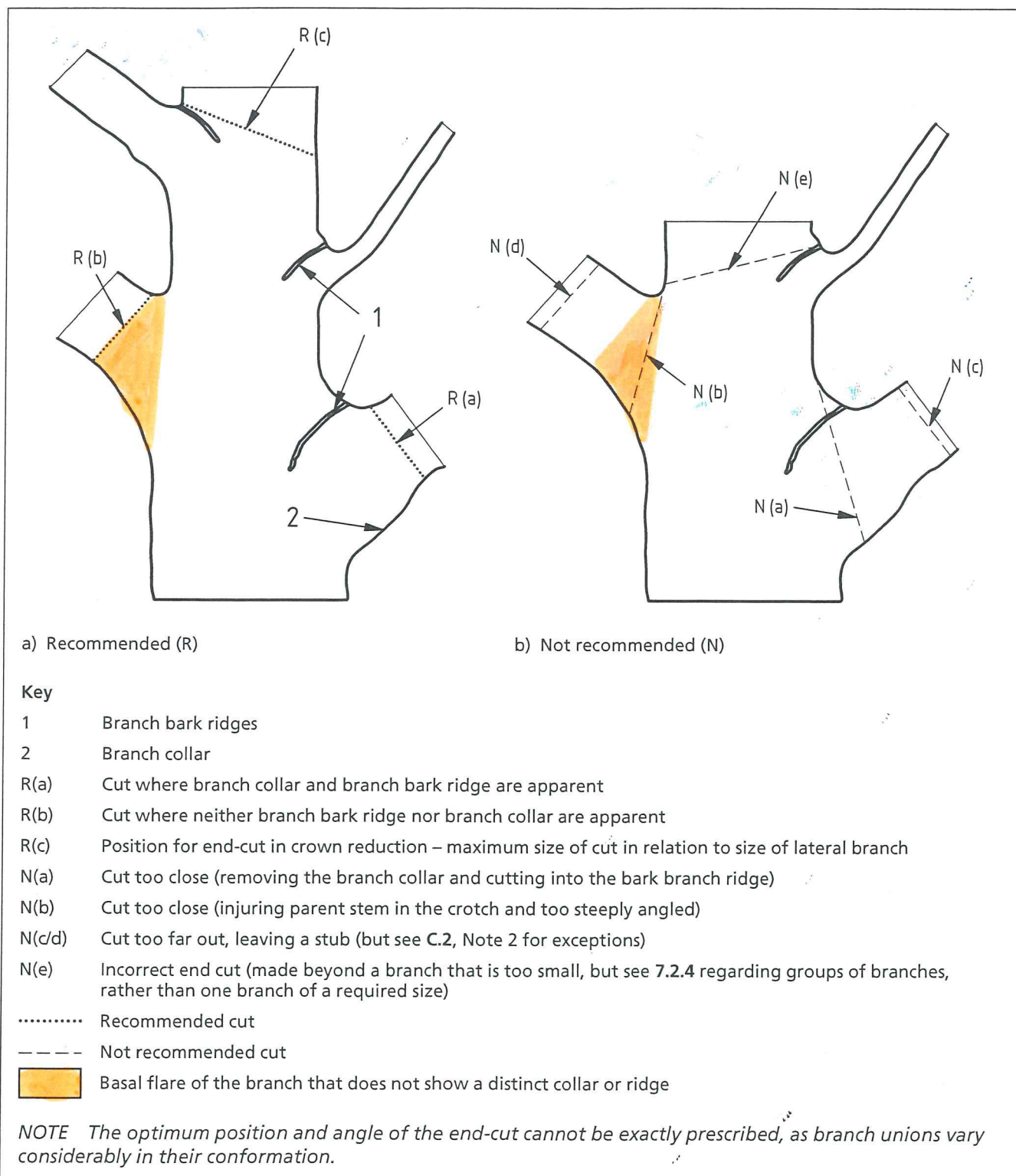


Figure 3 Crown lifting

