

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: **AW/350/18/T**

Location: **Windmill Cottage, 6 Windmill Close, Aldwick, PO21 4ND**

Description of works: **Crown thin 15-20% and Crown reduction of 3m to 1No. silver birch tree, 1No. oak tree and 1No. beech tree**

Reasons Given: None given

Comments on Application:

- Outwardly and from a distance these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state. They have been managed at reduced dimensions - new growth extends 1-2m from the established knuckles.
- The trees form an interesting linear group along the rear boundary of this property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings but have only limited visibility from surrounding roads.
- The work proposed is a repeat of previous operations.

Conclusions:

- 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.
- The proposal to reduce its overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.

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 these trees 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 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