

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: AW/354/20/T

Location: 4 The Spinney, Aldwick, PO21 3RL

Description of works: To reduce 3no. maple trees (T2) lateral branches to 6.5m, which are overhanging garage by 1.5 metres. To reduce 1no. oak Tree (T1) lateral branches to 7m spread

Reasons given: Clearance of garage and patio

Comments on Application:

T1 Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Early mature
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T2 3x Field maple / <i>Acer campestre</i>	Height: 5-10m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature
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- Outwardly and from distance all trees appear to be in a fine physiological state (and assumed to be so in the absence of any information/evidence provided to the contrary).
- T1 has slight asymmetric form and with evidence of past pruning to accommodate buildings. Negligible crown extension over patio and with lateral spread towards house/garage approximately 7metres; pruning to the extent described will be minimal and should not have any detrimental effect on the tree.
- T2 as 3 of 4 maple in a tight group. Shared crown profile with evidence of past pruning to accommodate buildings. Minor pruning of one aspect to achieve long-term clearance so ought not to have any detrimental effect on the trees.
- All subject trees have public amenity value and pre-date construction of the adjacent dwelling. They are important constituents of an established long (broken) line of trees which help define the character of the area and represent a significant public amenity.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. It proposes light pruning of selected small branches to maintain reasonable enjoyment of residential property and with respect for natural tree form.
- If undertaken to a high standard and at the right time; it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the trees long-term vitality.

Recommendation:

- 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.

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