

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

REF NO: AW/358/18/T

LOCATION: 10 Faresmead
Bognor Regis
PO21 3DQ

PROPOSAL: Crown reduction of 1.5m to 3 No. Hornbeam tree.

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
TREES	The trees outlined in this application is located at the rear of the property.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Dwelling with gardens to front and rear.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Residential area.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

AW/280/18/T	Reduce 3No. Hornbeams by 3m in circumference	
AW/106/14/T	Remove length by 4 metres and height from ground by 4 metres to 4 No Hornbeam and 2 No Beech Trees.	ApproveConditionally 29-05-14
AW/258/13/T	Cut back branches to rear trees overhanging 14 Gilwynes.	

A previously application AW/280/18/T was submitted for alternative surgery and was refused..

REPRESENTATIONS

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED:

Aldwick Parish Council

Aldwick Parish Council:
No objection received from Aldwick Parish Council.

No representations received from nearby occupiers.

COMMENTS ON REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED:

Comments noted.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

CONSULTATION RESPONSES RECEIVED:

Tree Officer:

- Outwardly and from a distance these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state and form part of an established boundary tree group.
- The central tree is dominant and despite having multiple stems, presents an attractive crown profile. The two companion trees on either side are slightly suppressed but nevertheless are constituent parts of the group and important for its cohesion.
- They grow at the rear of the property and can be seen from surrounding properties and public highway (road and footway). They are a good distance from dwellings and do not present any obvious problems.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed would irrevocably alter the form and profile of this established tree group and has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The trees are an established feature in the local landscape and appear to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- I recommend REFUSAL for this application.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

COMMENTS ON CONSULTATION RESPONSES:

Comments noted

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICES

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE:

NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under references ID 36-090-20140306 and ID 36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

Following comments from the Tree Officer, it is recommended consent be refused.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

The Council in making a decision, should be aware of and take into account any implications that may arise from the Human Rights Act 1998. Under the Act, it is unlawful for a public authority such as Arun District Council to act in a manner, which is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights.

Consideration has been specifically given to Article 8 (Right to respect private and family life), Article 1 of the First Protocol (protection of property). It is not considered that the recommendation for refusal of permission in this case interferes with applicant's right to respect for their private and family life and their home, except insofar as it is necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others (in this case, the rights of neighbours). The Council is also permitted to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest and the recommendation for refusal is considered to be a proportionate response to the submitted application based on the considerations set out in this report.

DUTY UNDER THE EQUALITIES ACT 2010

Duty under the Equalities Act 2010

In assessing this proposal the following impacts have been identified upon those people with the following protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation).

The proposal would have a neutral impact on the protected characteristics.

RECOMMENDATION

REFUSE

- 1 The trees make a significant contribution to the character of the area and therefore in the absence of any arboricultural justification the proposed surgery of the trees would be detrimental to the visual amenities of the locality.