

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: AW/35/17/T

Location: 80 Barrack Lane, Aldwick

Description of works: Reduce crown of 1 No Sycamore tree by 4m in height and 2m in width

Reasons Given: Improve light and sun percolation to the property

Comments:

Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 14m Avge Spread: 5m Age: Mature

- This tree has been heavily topped out in the past and this application seeks to repeat this exercise.
- The tree is healthy and vigorous and well able to withstand such a topping and lopping exercise and will readily respond to same.

Conclusions:

- Whilst I can support the repeat pruning of this tree I believe that the amounts stated are excessive and contrary to BS3998 recommendations and will exceed the previous pruning points which would be harmful both to the ongoing health and vitality of the tree but also the visual amenity value will be undermined.

Recommendations:

I recommend **REFUSAL** for the 4m height reduction and 2m spread reduction on this tree and suggest they re-apply for the following:-

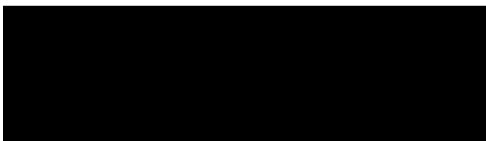
- Reduce crown height by a maximum of 2.5m making no cuts of 75mm diameter or over and not below the height of the previous heavy pruning cuts.
- Reduce the lateral branch spread by a maximum of 1m making no cuts of 75mm diameter or over and not to be beyond the previous pruning points.

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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*



Consultant Arboriculturist