

Planning Officer: Hannah Kersley

Planning Application Ref: AW/386/21/T

Location: 23 Margaret Close, Aldwick, PO21 3AA

Description of works: Fell 1no. Corsican pine tree (T1)

Reason given: Structural defect in main stem

Comments on Application:

Corsican pine / *Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio* Height: 20-25m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance (roadside) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided to the contrary. It is large and imposing, growing in proximity to residential property (near touching car port) and public highway. It is visually impressive and can be seen from numerous surrounding properties and publicly accessible areas.
- The applicant has employed Hoarticulture Ltd as agent, to prepare and submit a Tree Condition Report, which is comprehensive and detailed.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed has been justified on arboricultural grounds. Although a high-profile specimen tree of significant visual amenity; a structural defect such as recorded is irredeemable and the associated risk of catastrophic failure intolerable at this location. No active pathogen has been recorded and growth potential remains high due to the underlying physiology of the tree, so further crown weight and spread above the defect is likely.
- The tree's growth potential, exposure, and absence of satisfactory pruning options to mitigate an evidently unacceptable risk of stem failure, sadly condemns the tree.
- The restricted area from which the tree grows and absence of suitable locations nearby (including proximity to built structures and infrastructure) discourages me from recommending a replacement tree on this occasion.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace