

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 22nd April 2026

Case Officer: Rhiannon Lloyd

Reference: AW/41/26/T

Location: 25 Wychwood Close, Aldwick, PO21 4DW

Proposal: Fell 1no. English oak (T3), fell 1no. silver birch (T5), fell 7no. sycamore trees (G7).

Reasons: Risk management. Remove self-set growth to improve conditions for long-established ground vegetation and ornamental shrubs.

Comments on Application:

All trees in the proposal are growing within a Conservation Area.

T3 is also a subject of tree preservation order – TPO/AW/220/10.

G7 relates to the several distinct clumps of young sycamore growing from the east side of the ditch. It does not include the large, mature sycamore growing on the west side of the ditch, at rear of 11 Larchfield Close.

T3 Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature

A combination of relatively late bud burst and high percentage of major deadwood, suggest this oak is in poor health and lacking vitality. An oak of this age class should be thriving under most conditions and so the prognosis is continued decline. Removal of deadwood to safeguard garden visitors will leave the tree much diminished in the landscape. There is ample scope for replacement with a tree of similar ultimate stature and potential longevity and sufficient mature treescape locally to ensure no significant loss of amenity.

It may be possible for the stump to be left at a useful height above ground level to conserve biodiversity.

The retention of deadwood and decaying stumps can provide valuable habitats for plants and wildlife which may be protected under other legislation.

T5 Silver birch – This tree is mature and in terminal decline. They have little resistance to established decay and rapidly disintegrate. It is prudent to undertake removal of this tree.

G7 Sycamore – These young, self-set trees make no meaningful contribution at this time and if left will rapidly establish to the detriment of other plants of high ornamental value.

Conclusions:

T3 Pedunculate oak - The proposed work can be justified on arboricultural grounds. A suitable replacement tree can be planted nearby; this can be secured by a condition as part of our decision notice.

T5 Silver birch & G7 Sycamore – I am satisfied the work will not result in harm to the character or appearance of the conservation area. They lack the requisite amenity value to be suitable candidates for preservation.

I raise No Objection and see no reason to make a Tree Preservation Order.

Recommendation:

T3 - We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within five metres, free from the interference of established and developing tree canopy so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown towards maturity.

This is to be of Selected Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the oak tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*

Wild service *Sorbus torminalis*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Hop hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia*

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

The selected tree must be viable for long-term retention in the landscape after a period of five years from the date of this decision notice. Any tree dead, dying or considered unviable for long-term retention by the council's tree officer, will need to be replaced to the satisfaction of the local planning authority within 12 months of that determination.

Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Informative:

The removal of deadwood is an exception. Prior notice to or consent from the local planning authority is not required.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

PL- Consultation- Tree Officer response



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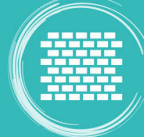
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 April 2026 12:24
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Vicki Richardson <Vicki.Richardson@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/41/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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