

AW/42/07/T**TREE WORKS TO TPO TREES REPORT**

DESCRIPTION/ ADDRESS	- Raise crowns by 1 metre and trim back to previous pruning points, equivalent of 20% of overall crown to 2no. Oak Trees 41 The Drive, Aldwick
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THE SITE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	N/A
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (NET)	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Flat
TREES	Two Oak trees in front garden
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	None to front. Small ranch fence to side.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Two storey detached house. Red stock brick with a plain concrete tile roof (hipped).
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Residential. Large detached properties within their own grounds. Area of Special Character.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
BR/63/85/T	Fell 1no. Oak Tree.	Approved Conditionally 20.2.85
AW/237/00/T	Fell 1no. Sycamore tree. Reduce crown of 2no. Oak trees by 25%.	Approved Conditionally 22.12.00
AW/12/03/T	Raise lower crown of 1no. Oak tree and reduce spread over house.	Approved Conditionally 28.3.03

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

SOURCE	SUMMARY OF CONTENT
Aldwick Parish Council	Objection - Members were unhappy that no horticultural reason was given for this proposed work. The trees are a public amenity and concern was expressed that the amenity value will be diluted if two out of a row of Oaks have their crowns reduced. The view of the District Arboriculturist should be sought regarding what work is permissible under the head of good husbandry.
West Sussex Wildlife Protection	No reduction unless dead or dangerous.
Other	None

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

CONSULTEE	SUMMARY OF RESPONSE
District Council's	I am taking the view that really nothing needs to be done to these

AW/42/07/T**CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

CONSULTEE	SUMMARY OF RESPONSE
Arboriculturist	although the applicant has said that his next door neighbour is having problems with the tree spreading over their drive. Whilst there is not a good horticultural reason for doing work on the trees I would suggest that the raising of the crowns by about 1m. of the present height might be sensible and then the trimming back of the outer crown to both trees to just above the previous pruning points which would be equivalent of 20% of the overall crown.

POLICY CONTEXT

DESIGNATION APPLICABLE TO SITE
Within Built-up Area Boundary Tree Preservation Order Area of Special Character

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

West Sussex Structure Plan : LOC1, DEV1 Arun District Local Plan : GEN7, AREA1
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PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

PPS1 - Delivering Sustainable Development Circular 36/78 DETR - TPOs : A Guide to the Law and Good Practice
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POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than Circular 36/78 and DETR TPOs are not specific to trees.

COMMENT ON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The application has amended the description of the application to comply with the request of the District Councils' Arboriculturist.

COMMENT ON REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

The trees are substantial trees and visually prominent in the front garden of the property. The proposed works are now in accordance with the District Council's Arboriculturist's views for good husbandry purposes.
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ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSAL**DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND**

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:- <i>"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."</i> The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

AW/42/07/T**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

The trees are important to the character of the Area of Special Character and this part of The Drive. They are in the front garden and very prominent. The proposed works are considered acceptable by the District Council's Arboriculturist for good husbandry reasons. It is therefore recommended that the application be approved subject to the conditions set out overleaf.

