

Planning Officer : Janice Chapman

Planning Application Ref: AW/47/14/T (to be reviewed in view of complaint from applicant)

Location : 32 Fernhurst Gardens, Bognor Regis

Description of works: Fell 1 x Monterey Cypress tree

Applicants Reasons The tree represents a threat to life and property

Comment On Application:

Monterey Cypress (x 1) *Cupressus macrocarpa* Height = 25m Avge spread = 8m Age = Mature

- A large and imposing tree in the landscape
- Has a 'sister' tree in the garden of No 30.
- Basal area appears sound and it has been cleaned out and tidied after recent storms and all suspect branches and storm damage have been removed – it now contains no actionable defects that I can see from ground level.
- In an effort to confirm the health of this tree and the presence of any split branches I reviewed this tree with the aid of binoculars – this revealed that the owner is correct and there is indeed a split branch in the upper reaches of the crown. However, this can be removed under the exemption clause because it is a safety issue (I acknowledge that 5 days written notice has been provided by the applicant).
- Beyond this I saw no other actionable defect in the crown and maintain my opinion that at the present time the tree is safe and worthy of retention.

Conclusions :

Overall it has a presence in the landscape and a contribution to make and there is no overriding safety issue or reason at this time to warrant removal.

I confirm that the above is still my considered opinion on this tree – if the owner disagrees then he has recourse to an official objection to the Inspectorate for an independent opinion.

Recommendation:

I object to the works as described in this application for the reasons stated above and recommend **REFUSAL**.

I still object to the works as described in this application for the reasons stated above and recommend **REFUSAL**.

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist