

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of report: 15th May 2026

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper

Reference: AW/67/26/T

Location: Land at the rear of 9 and 10 Faresmead, Aldwick, PO21 3DQ

Proposal: Fell 1no. beech (B6). Crown reduction to 1no. beech (B1) to leave a height of 13m and spread of 3m. Crown reduction to 3no. hornbeam (H2, H3, H7) to leave a height of 13m and spread of 3m. Crown reduction to 1no. hornbeam (H8) to leave a height of 9m and spread of 3m.

Reason: B6 – Poor condition

Comments on Application:

4x hornbeam / *Carpinus betulus* & 2x beech / *Fagus sylvatica*

Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Mature

I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding area provide further insight to the proposal.

The trees in this proposal are dominant constituents of a linear group of same species, straddling the boundary of several properties. They grow from third party land. They provide some visual amenity to the surrounding area and contribute to the extensive rear garden boundaries' hedge/treeline that connect larger areas of established green infrastructure.

All appear healthy and stable when viewed from afar and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided to the contrary, with one notable exception being B6, evidently in decline.

For clarity, the finished reduction in crown spread of 3metres is radial where sought, not diametric.

A finished top-height of 13metres is broadly in keeping with previous works undertaken and approved by the local planning authority. The proposed reduction in height of H8 to 9metres represents an unacceptable loss of crown volume and disrupts any attempt at uniformity.

Conclusions:

The majority of work proposed has been justified on arboricultural grounds and would not incur long-term detriment to tree health and amenity, if undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

The proposed reduction of height on H8 would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Due to planting density and practical constraints, there is no realistic prospect of securing a replacement tree for B6 within the existing group.

Recommendation:

As it stands, I am unable to support this application. I **would like the applicant invited to agree to a revised proposal for lesser works (as described below) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay.** Such work would go some way to addressing the applicant's concerns whilst ensuring no undue detriment to tree health or loss of amenity:

Fell 1no. beech (B6). Crown reduction to 1no. beech (B1) to leave a minimum height of 13m and spread of 3m. Crown reduction to 4no. hornbeam (H2, H3, H7, H8) to leave a minimum height of 13m and spread of 3m.

If the applicant agrees to the above revision, then I would be able to recommend we grant consent, subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Part a) 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

Part b) 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.

Part c) Where crown reduction work has occurred previously, the removal of subsequent growth (shoots and branches) and position of final cuts must ensure retention of all established knuckles.

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

Informative:

Although beech and hornbeam may respond with vigour to hard pruning (as proposed), they have a poor tolerance of such work and long-term vitality can be severely affected. The optimum time to prune is during the late spring to summer period (May to August).

We are obliged to advise that where trees are situated on land not owned by the applicant the granting of consent by this authority does not by association give permission to undertake such works that require

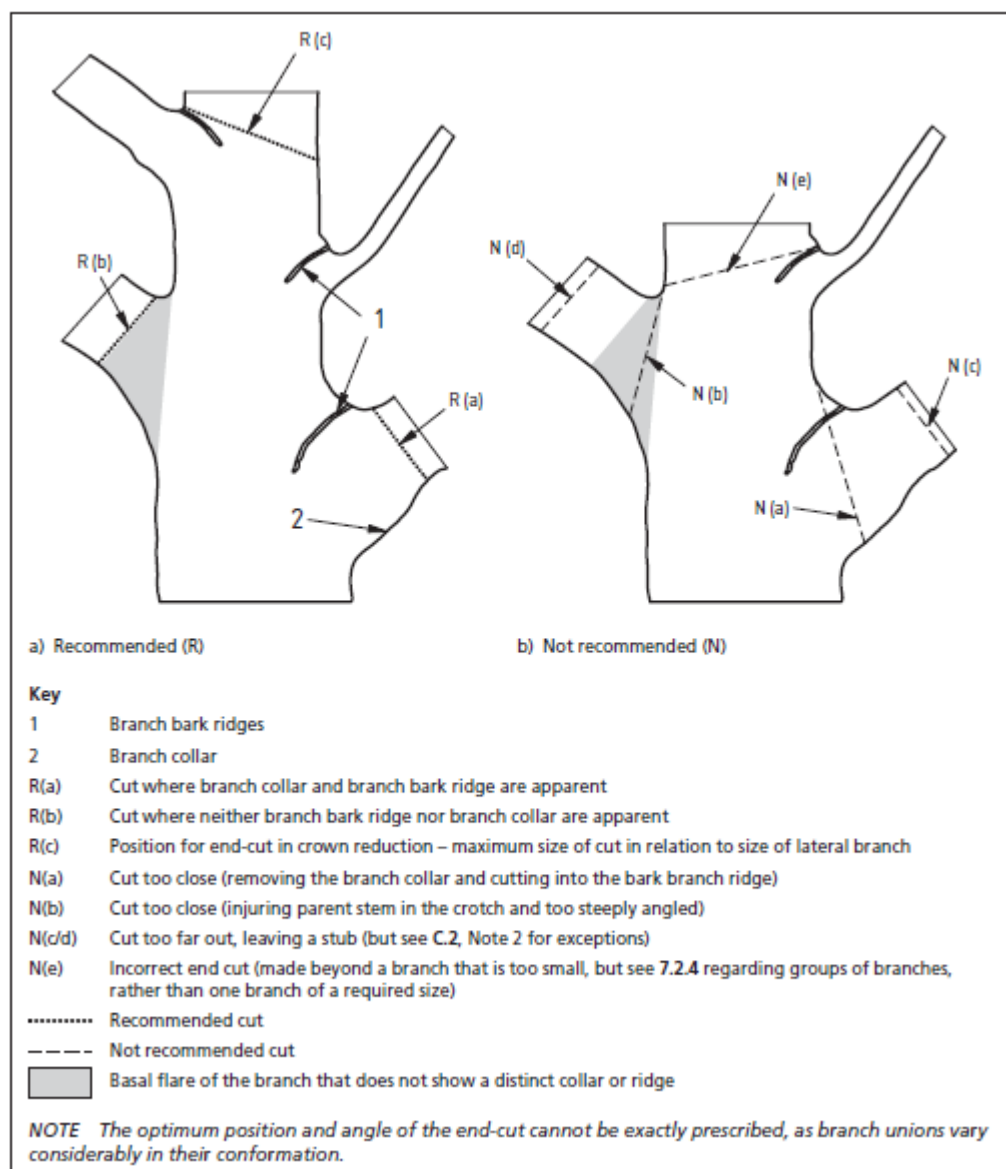
access onto/from that land. Nor does it permit any work to take place beyond the boundary of the applicant's property. Additional permission must first be obtained from the land/tree owner.

Mark Warwick

Principal Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts





PL- Consultation- Tree Officer response



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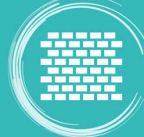
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 May 2026 12:21
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/67/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Principal Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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