

Case Officer: Hannah Kersley
Reference: AW/71/22/T
Location: Easter Cottage, Aldwick Street, Aldwick, PO21 3AW
Proposal: 1no. walnut tree (T1) - Reduce height by 2m and spread 1m to leave finished height of 6m and spread N-3m, E-4m, S-3m W-3m
Reasons given: History of crown reduction pruning. Close to property, highway and overhead telephone cables

Comments on Application:

Common walnut / *Juglans regia* Height: 5-10m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early 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.
- Despite a history of crown reduction pruning it makes a welcome and prominent verdant contribution to the local street scene.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- If the work is undertaken to a high standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality and visual amenity.
- The proposal to reduce overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** is granted subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

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) The removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established 'knuckles' so as not to extend beyond the point of origin.

Reasons: In the interest of the tree's 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

Advisory:

- Although walnut trees may respond with vigour to hard pruning (as proposed), they have a poor tolerance of such work and are prone to bleeding from wounds. Long-term vitality can be severely affected. The optimum times to prune are during summer (June to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February).

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

