

Case Officer: Hannah Kersley
Reference: AW/79/22/T
Location: 2 Woodstock Gardens, Aldwick, PO21 3PR
Proposal: Fell 1no sycamore tree
Reasons given: Health and Safety

Comments on Application:

Sycamore / *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Early mature

- The applicant has employed Round Top Trees Ltd. to assess the tree and provide a report on its condition. This illustrates the extent of bark loss on opposite sides of the main stem and canker-like nature of sapwood decay.
- Outwardly and from a distance (roadside) this tree appears to be in a fair-poor physiological state. There is a high percentage of deadwood across the crown, likely to be associated with the xylem dysfunction and decay reported.
- It is the last of four sycamores growing at the southeast corner of the plot when the Tree Preservation Order (/3/91/AW) was made, with no evidence of (or current proposal for) replacement planting being made. The local area has been denuded of mature canopy since that time and it is unfortunate there has not been successful replacement(s) to recover lost amenity.

Conclusions:

- The proposed work is necessary to mitigate a developing risk of structural failure and justified on arboricultural grounds.
- It will be necessary to secure a replacement tree of adequate size and stature to compensate for a substantial loss of canopy.

Recommendation:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within 4metres.

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 sycamore tree.

The species shall be selected from the following: -

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

Sweet Gum *Liquidambar styraciflua*

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace