

D&T Tree Surgery Ltd

17 August 2026

Arun District Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

****Re: Protected Chestnut Tree - Application for Removal****

I recently inspected the above protected chestnut tree following concerns regarding its condition and recent branch failure.

The tree is showing signs of decline, with a significant quantity of deadwood present throughout the crown. Dead branches have recently failed from the tree and fallen onto the adjacent road.

During recent works to remove hazardous deadwood, our climber observed additional deadwood within the internal crown which was not readily visible during the initial ground-level inspection. This has increased our concerns regarding the overall condition of the tree and the likelihood of further branch failure.

Fungal fruiting bodies are also present within the tree, believed to be ****Cerioporus squamosus (Dryad's saddle)****, a species associated with white rot and decay of woody tissues.

There is substantial epicormic growth around the lower stem and basal area. The density of this growth currently restricts visibility and prevents a satisfactory visual assessment of the stem base and root flare.

Taking into account the significant deadwood throughout the crown, recent branch failure onto the adjacent highway, additional internal deadwood identified by the climber and the presence of fungal fruiting bodies, I have concerns regarding the continued safe retention of this tree.

Given its declining condition and its proximity to the highway, I recommend that consent is granted for the ****removal of the tree to ground level****.

Should the Local Planning Authority wish to inspect the tree prior to determining the application, I would be happy to provide any further information required.

Yours faithfully,

****Jon Thwaites****

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