

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd

TO: Damian Sullivan

PLANNING APPLICATION: A/146/14/TC

ADDRESS: St Margrets Church Arundel Road Angmering BN16 4JS

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Reduce height and spread of 1No. Silver Birch by up to 6m, ensuring that pruning is restricted to branches of no more than 70mm diameter within the Angmering Conservation Area.

INSPECTION DATE: 24/10/2014

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection ☐No Objection ☒Split Decision ☐Comment ☒Recommendation ☒Suggested Conditions ☐Tree Replacement ☐Dead/Dangerous ☐CA & Amenity Value ☐

Species: Silver Birch *Betula Pendula* **Height:** 14 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 6 meters **Crown Condition:** good **Form:** good to fair **Age Class:** over mature

Comments:

- The outlined tree is located in the front car park of Angmering church. The surrounding landscape has a reasonable mix of mainly semi mature/mature specimens.
- This individual is in a very public location, and can be easily seen from the main highway outside.
- From the site inspection it is clear that this tree has been reduced historically. The previous pruning points coincide with a height/vertical reduction of about 6 meters and a side/lateral reduction of up to 2 meters. It is also clear that some of the top western extremities of the crown are overhanging and active chimney. This does pose a real fire hazard (especially once the birch has gone dormant)
- Also to reduce back to these established pruning points, is unlikely to have a long term impact on the individual's health, aesthetic value and longevity.

Recommendation:

- It would be therefore my **recommendation that a pruning activity should be allowed to place** as it has been done historically. The

dimensions of this **reduction should be a maximum of 6 meters of the vertical height, and also a 2 meter lateral reduction.** This would ensure this operation did not contravene the BS 3998:2010 section 7.6.

- Also a of this nature reduction will elevate the problem of overhanging branches over an active chimney and therefore reduce the risk of fire damage to the tree and neighbouring dwelling.

Conditions:

Crown Reduction

The Crown Reduction should not exceed the removal of single branch lengths which are greater than **1m** from the periphery of the original crown diameter. The branch removals should leave healthy substantial leaf bearing side branches. All side branches to be retained should be at least **1/3rd** in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed **100mm** in diameter.

REASON: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

**Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer**