

Planning Officer : Damian Sullivan

Planning Application Ref: A/33/14/T

Location : 24 East Drive, Angmering

Description of works: Trim tops of root nodules beneath level of drive to 3 x Monterey Pines

Applicants Reasons So that the owner can effect repairs to the drive and have reasonable use of same in future

Comments On Application:

T1 T2 T3 Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata* Height = 22m Avge spread = 8m Age = Mature

- Mature trees that are part of an avenue on this site and would probably have historic links to a previous use of the site
- They are all in fairly good condition albeit with the normal levels of dead wood to be expected in trees of this age and at this sort of exposed coastal location – some storm damaged and broken branches are evident in the crowns – again to be expected following the past Winter storms.
- The root systems have been very active in uplifting the tarmac surfaced drive – no doubt encouraged by their confinement and the pressures being applied by compaction and anaerobic conditions with inducement to grow under the tarmac to benefit from condensation and warmth directly beneath same.
- This is a difficult issue because any root loss has the potential to allow access of fungal pathogens but I also believe we have to be pragmatic about this situation and reach a compromise where some root loss or shaving of tops of nodules is inevitable but kept to a minimum and the owner agrees to apply a more flexible and porous aggregate surface to all but the road apron section of the drives - thus significantly reducing the chances that this will happen to this degree again in the future.
- It is impossible to be prescriptive about where and what roots are to be removed or nodules reduced and it is therefore **ESSENTIAL** that this operation is conditioned to be only undertaken under the direct supervision and monitoring of the Councils Arboriculturist so that they can direct the operations of the Tree Surgeons and define which roots can be cut and how much can be taken off the tops of the nodules.

Recommendation:

I **Approve** of the works in principle as applied for - subject to them **ONLY** being undertaken under the direct supervision and monitoring of the Councils Arboriculturist [times and dates to be agreed via the Planning Case Officer – as this may be done in two halves for practical reasons in maintaining one useable side to the drive].

Condition To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- ***All root severance and reduction MUST only be undertaken under the direct supervision and monitoring of the Councils Arboriculturist.***

Reasons:-

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

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist