

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: BE/19/21/T

Location: Arun Retail Park, Shripney Road, Bognor Regis, PO22 9NF

Description of works: Various Works to various trees within retail park

Reasons given: General maintenance (health and safety)

Comments on Application:

T2 White willow / *Salix alba* Height: 10-15m, Radial spread: 5-10m, Age class: Mature

T3 Horse chestnut / *Aesculus hippocastanum* Height: 10-15m, Radial spread: 5-10m, Age class: Mature

- Christopher Hoare Tree Services Ltd have prepared a tree survey and plan in support of this application. This is comprehensive and recommends a balanced set of work proposals to manage those trees in an appropriate state for their location.
- My understanding is that only TPO/BE/1/94 affects the above site. Having considered the supporting Schedule and Plan, only items T2 and T3 in the applicant's Tree Survey are subjects of that Order. The remaining items listed in the Tree Survey are to receive general maintenance pruning and I do not consider it necessary for any of those to be made the subject of a new Order.
- T2 - Outwardly this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and relatively stable. It is prominent and highly visible to highway and retail park users. It has an obvious pruning history (crown reduction). Repeat operations such as now being asked for will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.
- T3 - Outwardly this tree appears to be in a fair physiological state and relatively stable although clearly diseased and with reduced safe, useful life expectancy. It is prominent and highly visible to highway and retail park users.

Conclusion:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds.
- T2 - While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.
- T3 - The work proposed is necessary to mitigate risk of potentially catastrophic structural failure. Replacement planting with a tree of suitably large dimensions at maturity can be secured by condition.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following conditions:

Conditions 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) Where pollarding or crown reduction pruning has occurred previously, then 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 interests 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*

Condition 2

Once the horse chestnut tree (T3) 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 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 horse chestnut tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:

Hop hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Honey locust *Gleditsia triacanthos*

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

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of tree **T2** is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the late spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed should only be undertaken during this period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

