

Case Officer: Hannah Kersley
Reference: BE/23/22/T
Location: 78 North Bersted Street, Bognor Regis, PO22 9AQ
Proposal: Fell 1no. yew tree
Reasons given: Imminent danger to persons and property

Comments on Application:

Yew / *Taxus baccata* Height: 10-15m Average radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information and plans submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding areas provide further insight to the proposal.
- The applicant has submitted technical evidence from a Chartered Surveyor and data from their own long-term observations, in support of the application. Together this information demonstrates the wall structure is in a progressively unstable state and presents an unacceptable level of risk to those residing and attending 76 North Bersted Street.
- From photographs the tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided to the contrary. It makes a significant visual and historic contribution to the street scene and its removal would result in a loss of amenity. That may be keenly felt by local residents and frequent visitors to the village.

Conclusions:

- The proposed work has been justified on arboricultural grounds. The risk of damage to persons and property is proven and unacceptable. Tree removal is necessary as part of measures to achieve satisfactory restoration/replacement of the boundary wall.
- The loss of such a historic and large tree of high amenity value should be compensated for by replacement with a type of ultimately comparable size and significant longevity.

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 to within eight metres.

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 24 months of the removal of the yew tree.

The species shall be selected from the following: -

Yew *Taxus baccata*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

Wild cherry *Prunus avium*

Wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis*

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

Advisory:

- We are obliged to advise that where trees are situated on land not owned by the applicant the granting of consent by this authority does not by association give permission to undertake such works that require access onto/from that land. Nor does it permit any work to take place beyond the boundary of the applicant's property. Additional permission must first be obtained from the land/tree owner.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace