

Planning Officer: Hannah Kersley

Planning Application Ref: BN/154/21/T

Location: 4 Trundle View Close, Barnham, PO22 0JZ

Description of works: Reduce 1no. oak tree to previous trimming points to leave height of 8m. and spread of 7m

Reason given: Continuation of cyclical pruning regime

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance (roadside) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided to the contrary.
- Historically it has been the subject of several crown modifications (last undertaken 2016/17) resulting in a dense, compact form. It remains a large tree, prominent at the front of the property and can be clearly seen from numerous residential dwellings and to highway users. As such, it has public amenity value.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of this tree, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- The proposal to reduce overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- 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.

Recommendation:

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

Condition 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) The removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation (c2016/17) 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***

Advisory:

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

