

5th April 2017

**Proposed removal of 3x Sycamore (T1, T3, T5), Servite House, Bognor,
West Sussex- Arboricultural implications.**

- 1.0 I have been commissioned by the client to apply for the removal of three mature Sycamores within the car park at Servite House, Bognor Regis.
- 1.1 They are mature trees that have been pruned regularly over their life span due to their species, size and location close to the boundary and overhanging the car park at Servite House.
- 1.2 The trees exhibit no significant structural or physiological defects but their location and size in combination with the sap dripping from the foliage is preventing people from utilising the car park. The client is now keen to remedy this problem and in my opinion, the amount of pruning required to achieve a satisfactory result would render the trees extremely misshapen and one sided. In view of the common nature of this tree species and unremarkable quality of the individuals a proposal for removal and re-planting with similar species is suggested rather than pruning in this instance. Although there will be a short term visual impact, it allows for thoughtful replanting of a more suitable species offering higher amenity value in the longer term, whilst allowing effective use of the existing car park.
- 1.3 The implications of the proposal to fell the three trees are summarised in the table below. An assessment of the visual impact of the works is also provided.

Tree Works (Spec.)	Tree Nos	Visual Landscape Impact of Works*	Available Replacement Planting(Y/N)	Comments
Fell to ground level. (SP6)	1, 3, 5	Medium	Y	Trees have out grown their location, preventing the car park from being utilised. Further pruning is not viewed as an effective remedy in this instance.

*This is a preliminary visual appraisal based upon the opinion of the author having inspected the trees in the context of their current surroundings. – None (no change or beneficial impact) Negligible or indiscernible difference to treed landscape; Low – Noticeable but mitigated by retention of other landscape trees and features; Medium – Obvious but temporary alteration to the treed landscape; High – Obvious and permanent alteration to the landscape.

Visual receptors include the public or community at large, residents, visitors or other groups of viewers together with the visual amenity of potentially affected people.

Specifications for recommended tree works:

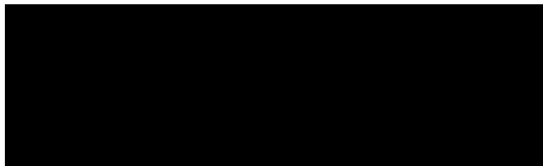
General

All work is to conform to BS 3998:2010 'Tree work – Recommendations' and with current arboricultural best practice. Tree works are to be undertaken by a professional and specialist arboricultural contractor, who carries the appropriate experience and insurance cover, equipment and PPE. All works and processes are to comply with all relevant Planning, Wildlife, Environmental, Conservation and Health and Safety legislation.

SP6.Felling involves the careful removal of a tree to ground level (or other specified height), either in sections or in one unit (straight felling). The method of felling will be suited to the constraints of the site and judged by the competent operator undertaking the task. Removing the stump may be part of the requirements and this will be carried out using a mechanical stump grinder where accessible.

- 1.4 As a consequence of my assessment above, I believe the visual impact of the removal of these trees to be medium in the short term, but low over the long-term context of trees and their sustainable contribution to the landscape and local amenity at this site.

Kind regards



James Cox
Southern Beeches Ltd.
7th April 2017