

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: BR/132/20/T

Location: Sabey Court, Albert Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 1LU

Description of works: Reduce crown of 1No. lime (T1) to height 16m and spread 9.5m and crown lift to 4m. Reduce crown of 1No. sycamore (T2) to height 16m and spread 8m

Reasons given: To reduce influence over adjacent buildings and garden areas

Comments on Application:

T1 Lime / <i>Tilia sp.</i>	Height: 15-20m	Average spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
T2 Sycamore / <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Height: 15-20m	Average spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature

- Both trees appear generally stable and in fine physiological condition. They have both been the subject of past crown reduction pruning, more obviously so on the sycamore which resembles a lapsed pollard. Both have 'grown on' well and share an attractive crown profile. Although they dominate the space around their crown spread, this is not obviously problematic beyond seasonal nuisance which should be tolerated given the amenity otherwise provided.
- Despite their combined size, they are visually confined by high-rise buildings and encroached upon by low-rise outbuildings. They can be seen from all aspects and by many residents, most of whom are likely to appreciate the verdant spectacle provided in an otherwise built environment.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. These are long-established and large trees of significant visual amenity that are to be carefully pruned to maintain reasonable enjoyment of residential property and with respect for natural tree form.
- If the work is undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality and visual amenity.
- The proposal to reduce their overall height and spread with a view to restricting growth consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Recommendations:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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 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 trees 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 both lime and sycamore 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