

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd

TO: Janice Chapman

PLANNING APPLICATION: BR/257/14/T

ADDRESS: 106 Chichester Road Bognor Regis PO21 5AA

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Prune back crown to 1No. Common Beech to give 2m clearance to property on North-East side within 6-12 months, remove stem on North-East side of 1No. Walnut Tree.

INSPECTION DATE:

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection ☐

No Objection ☒

Split Decision ☐

Comment ☒

Recommendation ☒

Suggested Conditions ☐

Tree Replacement ☐

Dead/Dangerous ☐

CA & Amenity Value ☐

T3 Species: Common Beech *Fagus sylvatica* **Height:** 15 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 4 meters **Crown Condition:** fair **Form:** fair to good **Age Class:** maturing

T4 Species: Walnut *Juglans spp* **Height:** 15 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 5 meters **Crown Condition:** fair **Form:** fair **Age Class:** early mature

Comments:

- These outlined trees are located in along the boundaries the rear garden of the dwelling 106 Chichester road. The trees are visible both Chichester Road and 65 Orchard way.
- These trees are an important feature in the landscape, and the loss of this feature would be missed.
- The application has requested to prune back the north side of **T3** away from the of the neighbour's property by 2 meters. The applicant has also requested to reduce the north-east stem to a previous point (by 4 meters).
- From the site visual inspection, it is apparent that **T3** is beginning to effect the neighbouring northerly dwelling as lateral extensional growth has grown to a close proximity. This growth is of a small diameter, which would indicate that this is re-growth after a previous pruning operation to ellevate the highlighted problem. The proposed operation of a clearance of two meters off the building of the outlined beech tree would elevate this issue.

- It is also apparent from the site inspection that **T4** has extensional growth that is growing out of the North/eastern stem. This stem, as highlighted in the submitted report has the presence of the pathogen *Inonotus hispidus* just below a previous pruning point. As a white rot fungus, *Inonotus hispidus* is a concern because it can cause brittle fractures to occur in the areas of decay. The application has requested the extensional growth from this historical pruning point is reduced back. This measure will reduce the stress acting upon this union and therefore the risk of failure occurring in the outlined area of decay.

Recommendation:

- **It would be my recommendation that the remedial pruning operation of instigating no more than an 2 meter buffer on T3 for the neighbours property should be allowed to take place**, as it is unlikely to have a lasting detrimental effect on the trees health and/or vitality. This operation is likely to alleviate any potential conflict experienced between this tree and the neighbours dwelling.
- **It would also be my recommendation that the proposed pruning operation of reducing the north-eastern stem of T4 by no more than 5 meters to the previous pruning point, should also be allowed to take place.** This operation will reduce the chance of a brittle fracture occurring in the pocket of decay located below the outlined pruning point.

Conditions:

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least **1/3rd** in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed **100mm** in diameter.

REASON: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer