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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 February 2020 16:42
To: Lynnyrd Wolfe <Lynnyrd.Wolfe@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: BR/338/19/T

Lynnyrd

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

Mark Warwick | Tree Officer, Greenspace, Arun District Council | Location: Bognor Regis Town Hall, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, West
Sussex, PO21 1LD

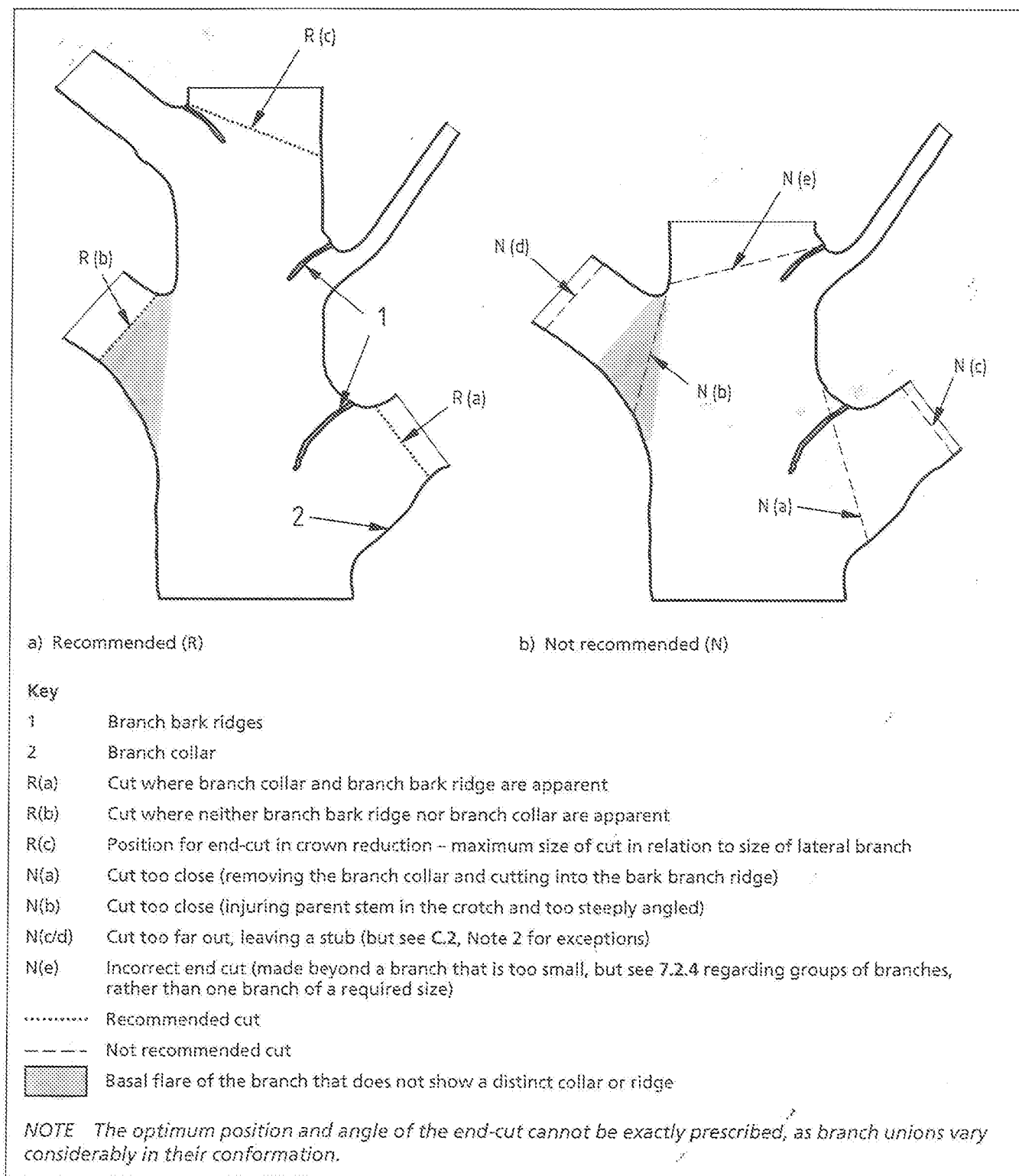
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Figure 2 Positions of final cuts



Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: BR/338/19/T

Location: 4 The Orchard Close, Bognor Regis, PO21 2PT

Description of works: Trim branches over roof to 4m clearance 1no. oak tree

Reasons Given: To prevent future possible damage and clear developing obstruction from in front of house

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Approx. height: 22m Average spread: 8m Age class: Mature

- This is a large tree with a full, spreading crown and attractive profile. Outwardly it appears to be in a fine physiological state and structurally sound.
- It is both visible from numerous properties and to users of the public highway (footway and carriageway). As such, it has high public amenity value.
- This is a large tree which has been partly confined by development, but fortunately appears to have been successfully accommodated. Some selective pruning of secondary limbs and branches has occurred in the past, presumably to facilitate construction of the house. At their closest, light branches are approximately 1.5metres from the dwelling at about first floor gutter height. Generally, building and overhead clearance is at acceptable levels.

Conclusions:

- This tree is very much in its prime and should remain so for many decades to come if given adequate respect and protection. There is no obvious reason to believe or evidence submitted in support of the application; that it presents an unacceptable level of risk for its location.
- The work proposed is in principle justified on arboricultural grounds as it seeks to maintain clearance of the building and outlook across the front garden, although I find the meterage proposed excessive and unacceptable. 4metres of clearance would involve the truncation of important limbs and branches with large pruning wounds being formed, that are likely to result in harm to the health and vitality of the tree.
- The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- As it stands, I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Advisory:

- I would like to see the applicant submit a revised work specification such as detailed below, which I would hope to address their concerns and provide future opportunity to maintain adequate clearances, whilst preventing a diminution of the tree's landscape and public amenity value:
 - Remove/reduce back secondary branches (diameter <75mm) to achieve a maximum of 2metres building clearance, where achievable.
 - Remove/reduce back secondary branches (diameter <75mm) to achieve a maximum of 5metres overhead clearance above areas of the plot south of the main dwelling.

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- If the applicant is prepared to re-submit in line with this advice, then I would be able to recommend APPROVAL 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.

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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 3 Crown lifting

