

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 28th May 2026

Case Officer: Silvie Steiningerova
Reference: BR/73/26/T
Location: Allotments North-West of Chipley Court, Hawthorn Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 5NL
Proposal: Fell 1no. mature ash (T1).
Reasons: Risk management / diseased tree

Comments on Application:

T1 is considered a subject of TPO Bognor No.16, ref. T6.

T1 Common ash / *Fraxinus excelsior* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

The tree is reportedly diseased with the fungus responsible for Chalara ash dieback. I saw no clear evidence of that and none has been provided other than anecdotal.

The crown is well balanced and supported by a single straight stem with no obvious significant structural defect. The small branch network appears stunted, symptomatic of a slowing growth rate in recent years.

Perhaps the tree is reaching its environmental potential, having competed with other mature trees and allotment demands? There is clear evidence of heavy infestation across the canopy from ash sawfly, which can have a deleterious effect on growth rate especially if occurring in successive growing seasons. Crown density is moderate as is deadwood content.

T1 is a large tree, one of several dispersed along the site's northern boundary. They are large trees, wholly visible from afar and make a significant contribution to the local landscape.

Conclusions:

The proposed work has not been justified on arboricultural grounds. While prudent to make safe trees in good time, where Chalara ash dieback is advanced, there is no confirmation of its responsibility for the condition of this tree. Given its high amenity value, we must be confident of any reason to remove it. I believe to continue monitoring would be the most appropriate course of action at this time.

Recommendations:

We refuse consent for this application.

Mark Warwick
Principal Tree Officer
Environment and Climate Change

PL- Consultation- Tree Officers response



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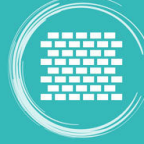
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 May 2026 16:22
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Silvie Steiningerova <Silvie.Steiningerova@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: BR/73/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Principal Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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