

Case Officer: Hannah Kersley
Reference: BR/7/22/T
Location: Nyewood Church of England Junior School, Brent Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 5NW
Proposal: Fell 1no. Monterey cypress (T1).
Reasons given: Causing issues with a block of garages and adjacent school, primarily due to its size and location.

Comments on Application:

Monterey cypress / *Cupressus macrocarpa* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Late mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information and plans submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from the adjacent school site and familiarity with surrounding areas provides further insight to the proposal.
- The applicant/agent reports a recent limb collapsed on a block of garages but does not describe the nature of that failure and if any damage was sustained. We can only assume the limb collapse was progressive and an isolated incident.
- The overall condition of the tree is not reported to be a concern (application form, sect.4) or any defect/disease identified.
- It is a large and long-established tree with obvious amenity value and appeared to be in a fine physiological state when viewed from within the school grounds (October 2021). It has an unmodified upper crown profile and is visually impressive.

Conclusions:

- This tree requires careful management that respects its age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression.
- There is no obvious arboricultural justification for the work proposed.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Advisory:

- The removal of dead or imminently dangerous branches is an exception and does not require permission, although in respect of the latter those undertaking are required to notify the local planning authority at the earliest opportunity and works should only be to the extent that the immediate threat to person(s) or property is abated. Any work desired beyond that which is absolutely necessary requires a formal application.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace