

Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner
Planning Application Ref: EG/21/19/T
Location: 10 Appletree Drive, Barnham, PO22 0LJ
Description of works: Crown reduction of approx 4-5m to 1No. tulip tree
Reasons Given: Health and safety

Comments on Application:

Tulip tree / *Liriodendron tulipifera* Approx. height: 20m Average spread: 6m Age class: Mature

- The applicant has employed the Arun Tree Company Ltd as agent, to assess the tree and provide a report on its condition. This recommends a balanced work proposal to manage the tree in an appropriate state for its location.
- I had a restricted view of the tree, but outwardly and from a distance the condition of its upper crown suggest it is in good physiological condition. This is a large and tall tree dominating rear garden and highly visible from surrounding properties and public highway (footway and carriageway).
- It has been subject to heavy crown reduction work previously and has responded with vigour, typical for a healthy example of its type. This particular tree type has a much elevated risk of limb/branch failure where the original framework has been modified to such an extent as this, such that repeat works will be necessary throughout its lifetime to maintain it in a structural state appropriate for its location.

Conclusions:

- On this occasion, I cannot say the proposal to reduce its overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority as I have not been able to retrieve a past permission for the original operation.
- The work proposed is necessary to mitigate risk of structural failure and so justified on arboricultural grounds.
- While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendations:

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

Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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
- 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.
- 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.
- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the mid-summer (late-June to early-August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work must only be undertaken during these periods.

Reasons: In the interests of the tree's continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

