

Planning Officer : Janice Chapman

Planning Application Ref: EG/26/14/T

Location : 10 Downview Road, Barnham

Description of works: Remove two branches (7.5m from base) and reduce crown of 1 No Fir tree by 5m

Applicants Reasons: To abate a nuisance of overhang, bird mess and needle shedding on the main parking area

Comments On Application:

This wording of this application had me totally confused as I could not match it to any of the 5 x Pines outside this property so I called on the applicants seeking clarification.

Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* Height: 9m Spread: N 8 E0 S0 W0 Age: Early Mature

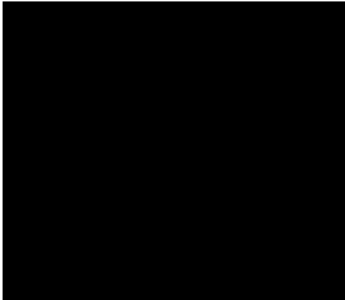
- Of the five Pines it is the one closest to the house which is causing all the problems.
- Due to suppression from the other four it has no choice but to grow out low to the ground and towards the house.
- There is a considerable amount of needle shed visible under the tree and also bird mess from Pigeons roosting in this tree.
- Whilst pruning back will solve some of the problems it will not solve them all and the tree will be so decimated by the works that it will have no amenity value and might as well be completely removed.
- It would be my advice that this tree is removed rather than pruned as this will solve the problems and leave four Pines in situ with very little impact on visual amenity value of the grouping.

Recommendation:

I **Object** to the pruning of this tree as described in the application and recommend **REFUSAL** - as it is not an effective solution to the problems and will destroy the trees amenity value.

I recommend that the applicants are encouraged to re-apply for **the complete removal of this tree** – in view of the fact that there are four other Pines at this location and to avoid a repeat of the present problems no replacement tree will be required on this occasion.

- Fell the Monterey Pine tree to ground level making the final cut flush with the ground and leaving the stump and roots in situ.



Consultant Arboriculturist