

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (**REF NO:** EG/4/15/T**LOCATION:** 11 Saxby Close
Barnham**PROPOSAL:** Pollard 1No. Weeping Willow tree to previous pruning stump point. Crown reduction by 2m to previous pruning points to 1No. Sorbus tree. Crown reduction by 2.5m to previous pruning points to 1No. Ash tree**SITE AND SURROUNDINGS**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	N/A
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (NET)	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat
TREES	The Willow, Whitebeam and Ash tree the subject of this application.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	The site is open to the front, rear and side boundaries close boarded fencing approximately 1.8m in height.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Detached dwelling with front dormers and attached garage. The property has reddish/brown brickwork with tiled roof and white window frames.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Residential cul-de-sac comprising a mixture of detached, terraced and flats.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

EG/60/04/T	Crown reduction by approx 25/30% & reduction in size of one heavy leaning limb of 1 Ash tree in rear garden.	ApproveConditionally 26-07-2004
EG/60/07/T	Surgery to one Ash tree, one Whitebeam and one Willow.	ApproveConditionally 31-10-2007

REPRESENTATIONS**Representations received:**

Eastergate Parish Council

Objection

The Parish Council would ask that the application be passed to the District Council's Arboriculturist for advice.

Comments on Representations received:

parish Council comments noted
See Tree Officer's recommendation.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

Tree Officer

T1 Species: Willow *Salix* spp Height: 9 meters Average Branch Spread: 3.5 meters Crown Condition: fair to good Form: fair Age Class: early mature.

T2 Species: Whitebeam *Sorbus* spp Height: 10 meters Average Branch Spread: 5 meters Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: semi mature.

T3 Species: Ash *Fraxinus* spp Height: 15 meters Average Branch Spread: 7 meters Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: mature.

These outlined trees are located in the Barnham area. The surrounding landscape has a rich mix of varying species and of differing age classes. All three trees listed in this application are covered by an active TPO.

For T1, it is clear that this tree has a series of previous pruning operations. These have been set to a reasonable standard. According to the BS 3998 section 7.7.3, 'follow-up work after crown reduction to maintain the reduced crown as a framework for cyclic management, whereby the new branches are periodically cut back close to their points of origin'. This does mean the recommended management for this tree would be to adhere to the regime of pruning that has already been initiated.

For T2, it is clear that this tree has a series of previous pruning operations. These have been set to a reasonable standard. According to the BS 3998 section 7.7.3, 'follow-up work after crown reduction to maintain the reduced crown as a framework for cyclic management, whereby the new branches are periodically cut back close to their points of origin'. This does mean the recommended management for this tree would be to adhere to the regime of pruning that has already been initiated.

For T3, it is clear that this tree has a series of previous pruning operations. These have been set to a reasonable standard. According to the BS 3998 section 7.7.3, 'follow-up work after crown reduction to maintain the reduced crown as a framework for cyclic management, whereby the new branches are periodically cut back close to their points of origin'. This does mean the recommended management for this tree would be to adhere to the regime of pruning that has already been initiated.

As the outlined pruning actions are likely to increase the retention spans of T1-T3, I would have no objection to the proposed operations. The following conditions are to be adhered to;

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

Crown Lift

Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Tree Officer comments noted, subject to conditions.

POLICY CONTEXT

Designation applicable to site:

Built Up Area boundary
Tree Preservation Order
No Public Sewer
Archeology Interest

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

Arun District Local Plan 2003:

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under references ID 36-090-20140306 and ID 36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

The application is for the reduction of three trees a Willow, Whitebeam and Ash which are the subject of Tree Preservation Order.

The Willow tree is sited in the front garden and is readily visible in the street scene and of significant public visual amenity value. The Ash and Whitebeam tree are sited in the rear garden and are visible above the boundary screening and of visual amenity value.

A previous application EG/60/07/T for the reduction of the trees was approved and work carried out at that time and the proposed pruning would reduce the trees to their established pruning points.

The Tree Officer has raised no objection to the works and it is therefore recommended to approve the application, subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

- 1 The works hereby approved shall involve:

Willow - Pollard to previous pruning stump point.

Whitebeam - Crown reduction by 2m to previous pruning points.

Ash - Crown reduction by 2.5m to previous pruning points.

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

Crown Lift

Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

Reason: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

- 2 The work hereby approved shall be undertaken under the supervision of the Local Planning Authority who shall be notified in writing, not less than 7 days before the work commences.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of amenity.

- 3 The burning of materials obtained by site clearance or from any other source shall not take place within 6 metres of the furthest extent of the canopy of any tree or group of trees to be retained on the site or on land adjoining.

Reason: To protect trees and vegetation from fire damage in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

- 4 **INFORMATIVE:** The applicant should note that under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, with only a few exceptions, it is an offence for any person to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild birds while the nest is in use or being built. Birds nest between March and September and therefore removal of dense bushes, ivy or trees or parts of trees etc. during this period could lead to an offence under the act.

- 5 **INFORMATIVE:** This notice does not give authority to destroy or damage a bat roost or disturb a bat. Bat species are protected under Section 39 of the 1994 Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (as amended), the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) and the 2000 Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It is illegal to damage or destroy any bat roost, whether occupied or not, or disturb or harm a bat. If you are aware that bats roost in a tree(s) for which work is planned, you should take further advice from Natural England (via the Bat Conservation Trust on 0845 1300228) or an ecological consultant before you start. If bats are discovered during the work, you must stop immediately and contact Natural England before continuing.