

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton
Planning Application Ref: EG/5/19/T
Location: 111 Barnham Road, Barnham, PO22 0EQ
Description of works: Raise crown to 2.4m to 1 no. Monterey pine tree
Reasons Given: Potential for damage to property

Comments on Application:

Monterey pine / *Pinus radiata* Height: Approx. 14m Average spread: 7m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and presents an attractive crown profile on all aspects. It is highly visible from surrounding properties and publicly-accessible land, so has high amenity value.
- The applicant is proposing the removal of a single branch that risks direct damage to their boundary fence line. The offending branch is small (<100m diameter), discreetly located within the adjacent understorey and is dead.
- The 'live' crown is in excess of 2.4m height, and so there seems to be no proposal for the removal of any foliage-bearing limbs/branches.
- If the applicant is proposing the removal of any 'live' growth (usual when *crown lifting* is specified) then this has not been made explicit. The large and obvious low limb tending south from the tree should be retained but if it is their intention to remove it we would need them to make that clear.

Conclusions:

- The offending branch is small (<100m diameter), discreetly located within the adjacent understorey and is dead. As such, it is an exception from the normal application process and can be removed (as with all and any dead branches) without requiring permission from the local planning authority.
- If the applicant advises that they intend to remove the large low limb then I would not raise an objection to such work, but a new application will be required and only then could consent be given subject to an appropriate condition being applied (which I can provide).

Recommendations:

- I recommend the applicant is advised of the contents of this report and informed that they can proceed with the removal of any dead branches without further recourse to this authority.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team