

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd

TO: Janice Chapman

PLANNING APPLICATION: EG/83/14/T

ADDRESS: Green in front of 17 Collins Close Eastergate PO20 3JT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Thin by 15-25%, reduce by 1-2m, remove rubbing branches to 1 No Beech tree

INSPECTION DATE: 04/12/2014

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection ☐No Objection ☒Split Decision ☐Comment ☒Recommendation ☒Suggested Conditions ☒Tree Replacement ☐Dead/Dangerous ☐CA & Amenity Value ☐

Species: Beech *Fagus spp* **Height:** 15 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 6 meters **Crown Condition:** good **Form:** good **Age Class:** early mature

Comments:

- The outlined tree is situated on the verged outside 17 Collins close, Eastergate. It is standing in a very prominent position abutting the main highway. The surrounding landscape has a reasonable mix of differing species and mainly small and medium sized trees.
- As provided by the applicant, and apparent on the site visit that this tree has had historical pruning, which emulate the works that have been applied for. As this president has now been set, there is a onus to adhere to the reduction regime. This will ensure the diameter of the regrowth does not get to a size where it could be at higher risk of 'break-outs'.
- The applicant has requested to thin by 15-25%, reduce by 1-2 meters. As a 25% thin and a 2 meter reduction would equate to more than 30% of the total crown mass. This would contravene the BS 3998 2012, and is likely to have a detrimental effect on this trees health.
- The applicant has also stated the desire to remove any rubbing branches that are discovered. From the site inspection it was difficult to determine the exact location and frequency of theses rubbing branches. It would be a prudent measure however to ensure any rubbing branches are

removed as part any remedial pruning. Failure to so is likely to lead to failures occurring in the areas of conflict.

Recommendation:

- It would therefore be **my recommendation that the proposed operation of a crown thin of no more than 15%, and a reduction of no more than 2 meters. Also the applicant should be allowed to remove any rubbing branches** (provided they are not over 100mm, as they would contravene the below condition). This would mean no more than a third of the crown mass is pruned on a single occasion.
- The applicant is to follow the below condition also;

Conditions:

Condition : 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.

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

**Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer**