CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of report: 6th October 2023

Case Officer: Adam Halpin

Reference: FG/119/23/T

Location: 31 Ferringham Lane, Ferring, BN12 5NB

Proposal: Various works to 2no. holm oak trees.

Reason: Risk management

Comments on Application:

2x Holm oak / *Quercus ilex*

I have considered this application by desktop review, using the information submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding areas provide further insight to the proposal.

The applicants have employed Oakwood Tree Consultants Ltd. to provide a tree inspection report. This is comprehensive and describes/illustrates the use of advanced decay detection equipment to determine the extent and significance of degraded wood and cavities. The work specifications are detailed and sympathetic to a long-term retention of the trees.

Both trees are long-established and prominent features in the street scene, offering high level of visual amenity despite their extensive pruning history.

It is proposed that only small diameter (=<50mm) branches are removed/reduced to achieve the desired outcomes, all in accordance with the requirements of British Standard 3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations.

Conclusions:

The proposed work has been justified on arboricultural grounds.

If undertaken to the prescribed high standard and at the right time, the work should not cause any undue harm or loss of amenity.

Recommendation:

We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Part a) 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

Part b) 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.

Part c) Where crown reduction work has occurred previously, the removal of subsequent growth (shoots and branches) and position of final cuts must ensure retention of all established knuckles.

Part d) All pruning cuts shall not exceed 60mm in diameter.

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

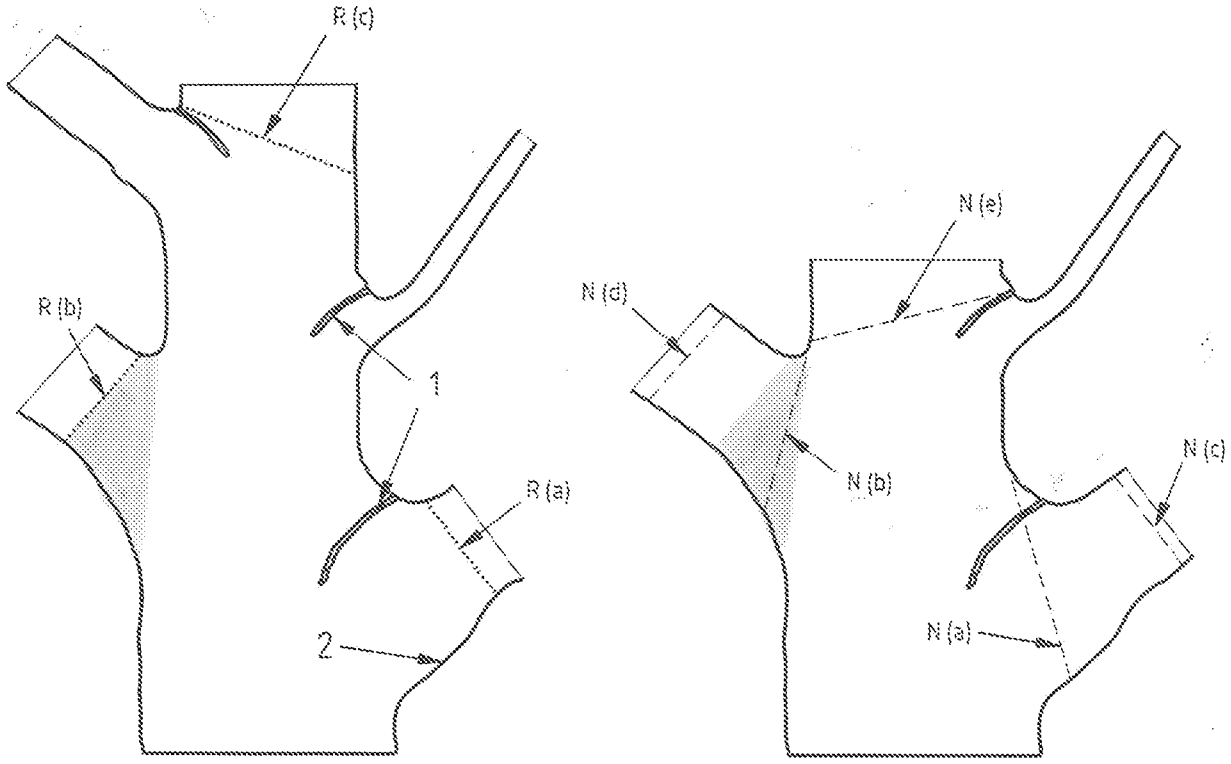
- ***See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter***

Informative:

Whole crown reduction pruning creates numerous wounds, incurring a physiological stress which may affect long-term health and vitality. The optimum time for pruning a holm oak tree is mid to late winter (January/February).

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer
Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 **Positions of final cuts**



a) Recommended (R) b) Not recommended (N)

Key

1	Branch bark ridges
2	Branch collar
R(a)	Cut where branch collar and branch bark ridge are apparent
R(b)	Cut where neither branch bark ridge nor branch collar are apparent
R(c)	Position for end-cut in crown reduction – maximum size of cut in relation to size of lateral branch
N(a)	Cut too close (removing the branch collar and cutting into the bark branch ridge)
N(b)	Cut too close (injuring parent stem in the crotch and too steeply angled)
N(c/d)	Cut too far out, leaving a stub (but see C.2, Note 2 for exceptions)
N(e)	Incorrect end cut (made beyond a branch that is too small, but see 7.2.4 regarding groups of branches, rather than one branch of a required size)
.....	Recommended cut
– – – –	Not recommended cut
	Basal flare of the branch that does not show a distinct collar or ridge

NOTE The optimum position and angle of the end-cut cannot be exactly prescribed, as branch unions vary considerably in their conformation.

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL FG/119/23/T

[redacted]

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From: Mark Warwick [redacted]
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 5:11 PM
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Adam Halpin [redacted]
Subject: FG/119/23/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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