

Nicola Spencer

From: Mark Warwick
Sent: 23 December 2025 15:03
To: Nick Collins
Cc: Planning
Subject: RE: FW: Urgent - FG/128/25/T 3 Grange Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Nick Collins

I have nothing further to add, but do recommend you either submit a tree work application or submit evidence in support of urgent works under the exception for dealing with a dangerous tree.

Please reply to all addressees if corresponding further, as it is most important our area planning team are made aware of it.

Kind regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

From: Nick Collins [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 December 2025 12:14
To: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: FW: Urgent - FG/128/25/T 3 Grange Park

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. You should take extra care when clicking links or opening attachments - if you are unsure the content is safe contact the IT Helpdesk before clicking or opening.

Hi Mark,

I disagree with your definition of a 5 day notice, if a tree is dead OR dangerous you may submit an application.

I agree you would typically look for stag heading or some sort of decline in the crown , however meripilus does not tend to affect the crown and concentrates itself in the root system creating white rot.

I have seen trees as healthy as this fail and especially beech trees. As a qualified arboriculturalist with circa 20 years experience i would advise the tree be removed due to its close proximity to target zones putting people and buildings at risk.

I would also note that due to an incredibly mild winter (one of the most mild on record) we cannot rule out meripilus as you suggest.

I will be looking to submit a report , and reissuing a 5 day notice one this has been done.

Regards.
Nick

On Tue, 23 Dec 2025, 09:47 Mark Warwick, <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk> wrote:

Nick Collins

Thank you for your email.

A five working day notice is only required where there is intent to a fell a dead tree, the subject of a TPO or within a Conservation Area.

If you consider the urgent felling of this tree to be necessary, it must be done under the exception for dealing with dangerous trees and branches (please see attached explanatory note). If the tree was displaying some crown symptoms indicative of root dysfunction and/or there was a positive identification of giant polypore, given the obvious target areas and size of the tree it may satisfy the formal definition of a dangerous tree. My own view is that there is insufficient evidence at this time to suggest the tree presents an immediate risk of significant harm and therefore the exception does not apply.

Having carefully studied your photographs, and reflecting on my own observations when attending on 17th December 2025 (where I brought the presence of fungal growth to the attention of your client and suggested monitoring; I also offered to review any photographic evidence of fresh sporophores to help secure a positive identification/more informed hazard evaluation), I do not concur we are looking at giant polypore. In my experience their fruiting bodies tend to form in larger clumps when established and are fronded; it is unusual for them to persist this late in the year, least of all in a solid rubbery state. That said, fungal phenology seems to be changing rapidly, along with our climate and habitats, so your suggestion cannot be ruled out. I believe the fungal growth is more likely a zoned rosette (*Podoscypha multizonata*), also found on beech roots and associated with older and veteran trees. I observed growths at distance from the stem and only on the east aspect.

Furthermore, any lean of the tree may be significant in the event the tree fails, as this will indicate the likely target area for impact. It does not of itself suggest the tree is unstable; that determination would need to be evidenced in support of any remedial action (pruning or felling). I did not observe an obvious

lean but suggest there is likely to be a long-established influence of prevailing southwest winds on crown development.

If it remains the intention of you and your client to seek the removal of this tree, your only option is to submit a tree work application with supporting evidence and gain consent from the local planning authority.

Kind regards,

Mark Warwick, *MArborA*

Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

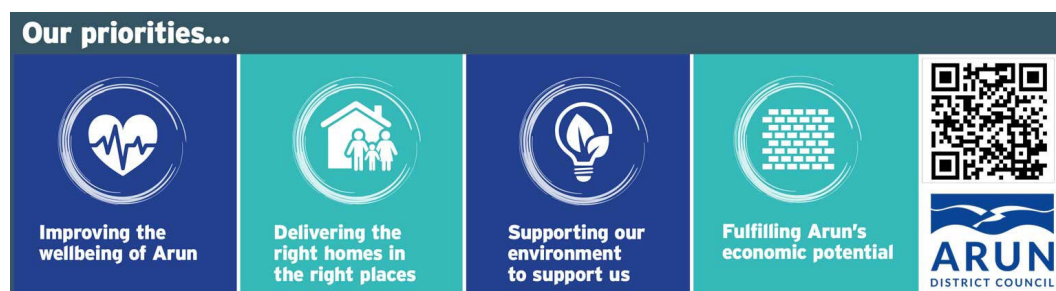
T: 01903 737974

E: mark.warwick@arun.gov.uk

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd

Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

www.arun.gov.uk



From: Nick Collins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 22 December 2025 20:02
To: Freya Clewley <Freya.Clewley@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Urgent - FG/128/25/T 3 Grange Park

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. You should take extra care when clicking links or opening attachments - if you are unsure the content is safe contact the IT Helpdesk before clicking or opening.

Good evening both,

I am issueing a 5 day notice to fell the beech Tree mentioned in this application.

Upon further inspection I have found fungal fruiting bodies, and given the location (at the base and roots) and their blackened, tar-like, rosette appearance, this is almost certainly *Meripilus giganteus*, commonly known as the Giant Polypore.

This is important:

- *Meripilus giganteus* causes white rot of the roots
- It significantly weakens the tree's structural stability
- Even if the tree looks healthy above ground, the root plate may be compromised
- Beech trees with this fungus are considered high risk for failure, especially in high wind.

I have carried out an assessment and considered the Targets/ location of the tree and unfortunately the tree requires sectional dismantle. The tree also had a slight lean which is common with this type of root fungus.

Please see attached photographs documenting the *Meripilus*.

I look forward to hearing from you

Regards

Nick Collins.

On Thu, 18 Dec 2025, 13:29 Freya Clewley, <Freya.Clewley@arun.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Nick,

Thank you for your email. I note you also called yesterday and left a voicemail message.

Mark Warwick, the Tree Officer at the Council, has advised me that you discussed the application with him this morning. I appreciate your frustrations, and I note that there was a short turnaround time to agree to the revised description. This is a very unfortunate situation, and I do appreciate the points raised. Upon receipt of Mark's comments, Officers tried to contact you immediately in order to try to amend the application within this short timeframe. I appreciate on this occasion that this was not possible and that this is regrettable, however I do hope Mark's comments (attached) are still of use to you in terms of moving the proposal forward.

Unfortunately, I am not able to revoke any decision issued by the Local Authority, however, I would encourage you to submit a revised application at your earliest convenience and I can assure you that Officers would deal with any subsequent application as a matter of urgency to avoid any further delay for yourself or your client. If you are able to submit the revised application this week, I would discuss with the validation team to try to get this validated prior to the Christmas break, again, to avoid any further delay.

I hope the above is of assistance to you. I am in meetings for most of the afternoon, however if I can assist any further, please do let me know and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,

Freya

Freya Clewley

Minor Applications Lead (Development Management), Planning

T: 01903 737544

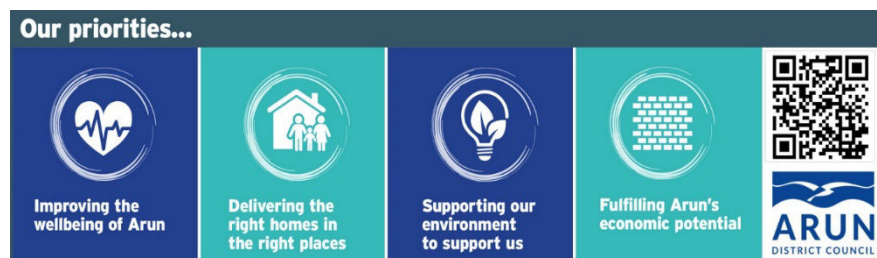
E: freya.clewley@arun.gov.uk

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd

Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

www.arun.gov.uk

To register to receive notification of planning applications in your area please go to
www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder



From: Nick Collins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 17 December 2025 16:53
To: Freya Clewley <Freya.Clewley@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Urgent - FG/128/25/T 3 Grange Park

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. You should take extra care when clicking links or opening attachments - if you are unsure the content is safe contact the IT Helpdesk before clicking or opening.

Hi freya ,

I am happy to amend this asap.

It is not agreeable to push such short timeframe on this. Please call and advise.

[REDACTED]

Regards.

Nick

On Wed, 17 Dec 2025, 15:34 Freya Clewley, <Freya.Clewley@arun.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Mr Collins,

I hope you are well. I tried to call this afternoon in relation to the tree works application at 3 Grange Park.

I have just spoken to the Tree Officer, who visited the site today and discussed the proposal with the owner.

The Tree Officer has advised that, as currently proposed, the works are unacceptable. As such, I am seeking your agreement to amend the description of the proposed works to the below:

1 No. Beech tree (T1) lateral spread reduction on the north, east, south and west aspects to 7m, 8m, 9m, 7m respectively, clear from adjacent building by 2m.

I will need a response to this email urgently by 4.30pm today. If no response is received, Officers will have to proceed and refuse the application.

I hope the above is of assistance.

Kind Regards,

Freya

Freya Clewley

Minor Applications Lead (Development Management), Planning

T: 01903 737544

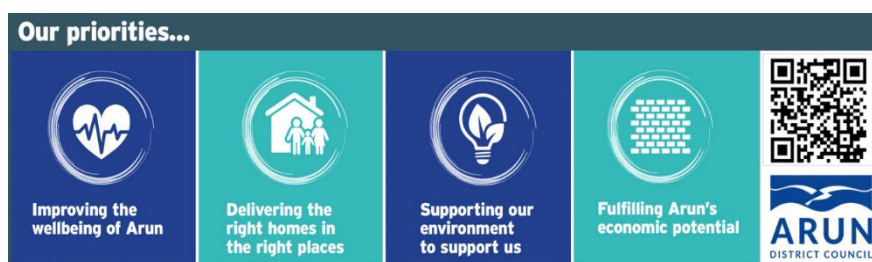
E: freya.clewley@arun.gov.uk

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd

Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

www.arun.gov.uk

To register to receive notification of planning applications in your area please go to
www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder



<https://www.arun.gov.uk>

DX 57406 Littlehampton

You can view Arun District Council's Privacy Policy from <https://www.arun.gov.uk/privacy-policy>

Important Notice This e-mail is intended exclusively for the addressee and may contain information that is confidential and/or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorised to receive it for the addressee), please notify the sender and delete the e-mail immediately; using, copying, or disclosing it to anyone else, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. Any views, opinions or options presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Arun District Council. The information in this e-mail may be subject to public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, therefore we cannot guarantee that we will not provide the

whole or part of this e-mail to a third party. The Council reserves the right to monitor e-mails in accordance with relevant legislation. Whilst outgoing e-mails are checked for viruses, we cannot guarantee this e-mail is virus-free or has not been intercepted or changed and we do not accept liability for any damage caused. Any reference to "e-mail" in this disclaimer includes any attachments.

<https://www.arun.gov.uk>

DX 57406 Littlehampton

You can view Arun District Council's Privacy Policy from <https://www.arun.gov.uk/privacy-policy>

Important Notice This e-mail is intended exclusively for the addressee and may contain information that is confidential and/or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorised to receive it for the addressee), please notify the sender and delete the e-mail immediately; using, copying, or disclosing it to anyone else, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. Any views, opinions or options presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Arun District Council. The information in this e-mail may be subject to public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, therefore we cannot guarantee that we will not provide the whole or part of this e-mail to a third party. The Council reserves the right to monitor e-mails in accordance with relevant legislation. Whilst outgoing e-mails are checked for viruses, we cannot guarantee this e-mail is virus-free or has not been intercepted or changed and we do not accept liability for any damage caused. Any reference to "e-mail" in this disclaimer includes any attachments.

<https://www.arun.gov.uk>

DX 57406 Littlehampton

You can view Arun District Council's Privacy Policy from <https://www.arun.gov.uk/privacy-policy>

Important Notice This e-mail is intended exclusively for the addressee and may contain information that is confidential and/or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorised to receive it for the addressee), please notify the sender and delete the e-mail immediately; using, copying, or disclosing it to anyone else, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. Any views, opinions or options presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Arun District Council. The information in this e-mail may be subject to public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, therefore we cannot guarantee that we will not provide the whole or part of this e-mail to a third party. The Council reserves the right to monitor e-mails in accordance with relevant legislation. Whilst outgoing e-mails are checked for viruses, we cannot guarantee this e-mail is virus-free or has not been intercepted or changed and we do not accept liability for any damage caused. Any reference to "e-mail" in this disclaimer includes any attachments.
