

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of report: 4th February 2026

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper
Reference: FG/158/25/T
Location: 166 Littlehampton Road, Ferring, BN12 6PH
Proposal: Fell 1no. ash (T2).
Reason: Poor and declining condition

Comments on Application:

Common ash / *Fraxinus excelsior* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site (August 2025) and familiarity with surrounding areas provide further insight to the proposal.

The tree is located on boundary between two residential properties and is a major constituent of a long-established treeline that provides considerable visual amenity for the surrounding area.

I considered T2 to be in early stage of terminal decline, possessing a high volume of dead branches, low-moderate crown density and bacterial canker infection on majority of limb/major branch framework. It had asymmetric form, weighted to the east.

The prognosis for the tree is that it is highly unlikely to recover normal levels of vitality or increase its amenity offer. It is certainly not a long-term proposition in any meaningful way, and the developing risk of harm from falling branches may become unacceptable.

Conclusions:

The proposed work can be justified on arboricultural grounds.

There is an opportunity to replant at the same location, to ensure continuity of the treeline, which can be secured by an appropriately worded condition.

Recommendation:

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

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within five metres, free from the interference of established and developing tree canopy so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown towards maturity.

This is to be of Selected Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the ash tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Wild service *Sorbus torminalis*

Turkish hazel *Corylus colurna*

Hop hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia*

The selected tree(s) must be viable for long-term retention in the landscape after a period of five years from the date of this decision notice. Any tree dead, dying or considered unviable for long-term retention by the council's tree officer, will need to be replaced to the satisfaction of the local planning authority within 12 months of that determination.

Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick

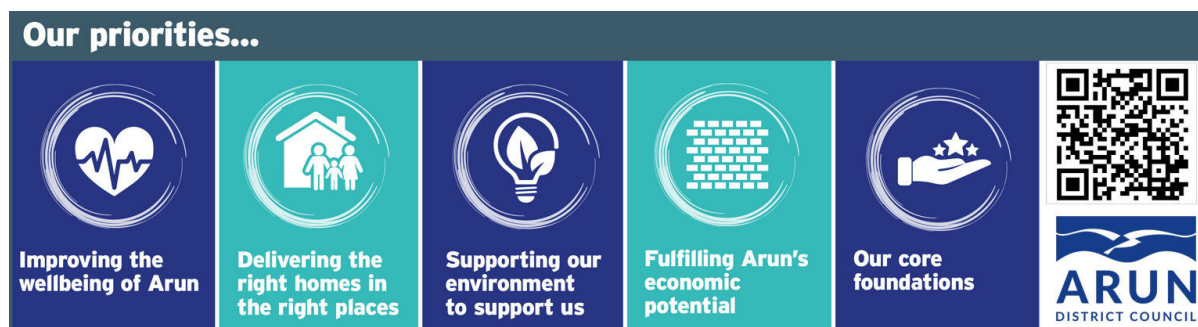
Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

PL- Consultation- Tree Officers response

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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
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To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: FG/158/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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