

Case Officer: Harry Chalk
Reference: FG/42/22/T
Location: Little Paddocks Estate, Little Paddocks, Ferring, BN12 5NH
Proposal: 1no. holm oak tree - Crown thin by 25% and canopy reduction to leave height approx. 12-13m and spread 5-6m
Reasons given: Response to recommendations made by Consultant Arboriculturists who have identified and investigated significant structural defects and disease.

Comments on Application:

Holm oak / *Quercus ilex* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Late mature

- I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information and plans submitted as well as online resources.
- The applicant has employed Bournetrees Consultancy and Harraway Trees to assess the tree and provide a report on its condition. They are comprehensive and complementary reports, which ultimately recommend a balanced set of work proposals to manage the tree in an appropriate state for its location.
- The tree is large and with a visually impressive crown profile, providing considerable amenity for those residing within or visiting this part of the estate.

Conclusions:

- The proposed work has been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- If the work is undertaken to a high standard and at the right time, then the tree should be able to remain a long-term visually interesting feature in the local landscape.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** is granted subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

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.

Reasons: In the interest of the tree's 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***

Advisory:

- Although holm oak may respond with vigour to hard pruning (as proposed) they have a poor tolerance of such work and long-term vitality can be severely affected. The optimum time to prune is during mid to late winter (January/February).

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Greenspace

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

