

Arun Tree Company Ltd

arboricultural contractors

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Gabriel Karrouze
Yew Tree Cottage
The Street
Ferring

10th March 2021

Dear Gabriel

Thank you for getting me over to take a look at your trees.

Street Frontage - Running from the pedestrian gate at the Southerly end of your frontage and heading north, you have the following trees –

T1 – Multi stemmed Bay close to the low flint wall. From the previous reduction in height some years ago this Bay has only had the easterly lower growth cut, so not to interfere with the foot path. This multi stemmed Bay is in good health.

T2 - Setback, a few meters from the Low flint wall, is a semi-mature, twin stemmed Ilex Oak. This was topped at approximately 3.5 meters some years ago. The tree has responded (multi-stemmed) with approximately 6 to 7 meters of new growth from the Old pruning cut. It is in full vigour/health and will continue in height and spread.

T3 – Multi stemmed Bay close to the low flint wall, just south of the telegraph pole. This tree is identical in habit to T1, also in good health.

T4 – Young self-seeded Ash tree, just north of the telegraph pole by the low flint wall. Due to Ash dieback and this tree overhanging the Street, I feel action will possibly need to be taken.

T5 – young but tall Holly, set back from the boundary, just west of the Ash (T4).

T6 – Mature Yew tree. This is the most prominent tree of age, on your frontage. It is in good health. The ground to its north dips down from where there was once a right of way to fields (now built on) west of your property. There is minimal dead wood and the odd branch pushing out over the taller northerly wall.

T7 – Mature Lawson Confer set in, north west of the Yew tree (T6). This tree has been drawn up for the light. Its upper canopy is gaining dominance over the Yew. At present it is, I understand a good swing tree. It is of low amenity value in comparison to the Yew (T6).

T8 – Mature Magnolia on the north east corner of your property. This is in good health and also competing for space with the neighbouring Lawson conifer and Yew. It is a great garden tree in a good location.

Rear Garden West Boundary

T9 - Semi Mature Elm tree, up against the south west corner of the House. This tree has come up as a root sucker. It is not in a very appropriate spot, as would/could become a large tree. It is however at the age where it is susceptible to Dutch Elm disease.

T10 & T11 - Two mature Portuguese Laurel on the north west corner of your property. They are in good vigour and show signs of having been pruned down in height in the past, hence their dense bushy canopies.

Works Recommendations

Looking at the frontage, I believe the best approach with a view to maintaining a balance between keeping a tree line and having a reasonable level of light coming into your garden and also onto your thatched roof is as follows -

T1 & T3 - Reduce the height of the two Bay, leaving a final height of 3.5 meters.

T2 - Prune the Ilex Oak stems down to the previous pruning point (cannot be left to develop into a mature canopy, due to location) leaving a final height of 3.5 meters.

T4 – Fell the Semi Mature Ash tree. This is not an ideal garden tree which provides little to no screening. Removal will benefit the yew (T6)

T5 – Reduce the Holly, to match the neighbouring Ilex Oak, leaving it at a final height of 3.5 meters.

T6 - Remove minimal dead wood and one low limb growing to the north over your boundary wall.

T7 – This Lawson conifer will be best felled to allow the Yew to become the feature tree. I do not think this is urgent. I am recommending that it is something to plan for the near future. No Work at Present

T8 – Magnolia – No Work

Rear garden

T9 – Semi mature Elm. Reduce the canopy by 2.5 meters leaving it at approximately 3.5 Meters in height.

T10 & T11 – The Two Mature Portuguese Laurels – Reduce the heights of both trees by 1.5 meters as has been done in the past, leaving them at a final height of approximately 3 Meters.

The above works have been recommended to maintain the trees/screening and allow light into your garden and sun light onto the thatch. I have focussed on the Yew tree as being the tree that provides the highest amenity value. The Yew tree's location fortunately being north east of your roof line, allowing you to leave it to develop. If I can be of further help please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely

John Bentley (NDarb)