

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: FG/69/21/T

Location: North Hangleton, 63 Langbury Lane, Ferring, BN12 6QA

Description of works: Crown reduction to 1no. holm oak by 20% (2.5m) and crown lift to 3.0m from ground level. This will leave a span of approximately 15m and height of 15m

Reasons given: 1. Excessive shade of neighbouring properties 2. Excessive highway overhang

Comments on Application:

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

- Outwardly and from distance (roadside) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state (and assumed to be so in the absence of any information/evidence provided to the contrary). It is prominent as part of the street scene and presents an attractive crown profile.
- Although clearly a tree with some public amenity value, it also dominates to the detriment of adjacent cottage gardens. It has high growth potential and without some containment pruning will soon become problematic at this location.

Conclusions:

- Although I do not find the reasons given to be sufficient justification for the work proposed; I recognise there is a need to undertake some containment pruning to keep the tree at appropriate dimensions for its location.
- While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for this application, subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

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:

- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid to late winter (January to February) period. The work should only be undertaken during this period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 3 Crown lifting

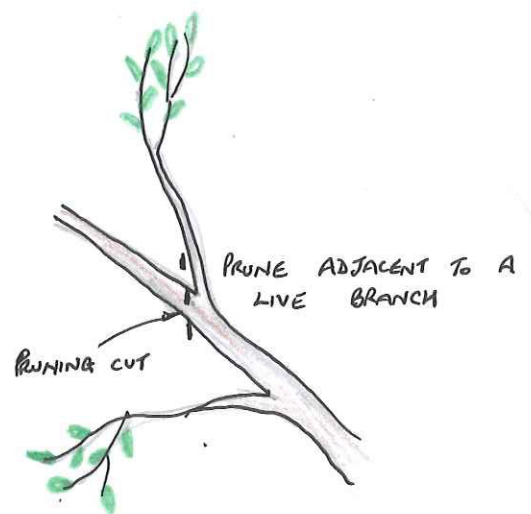
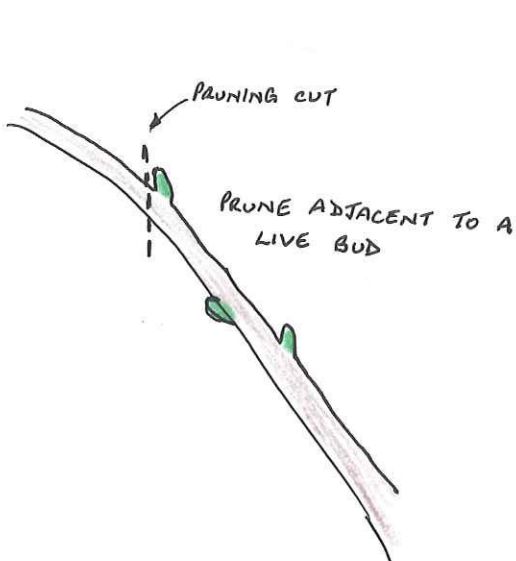
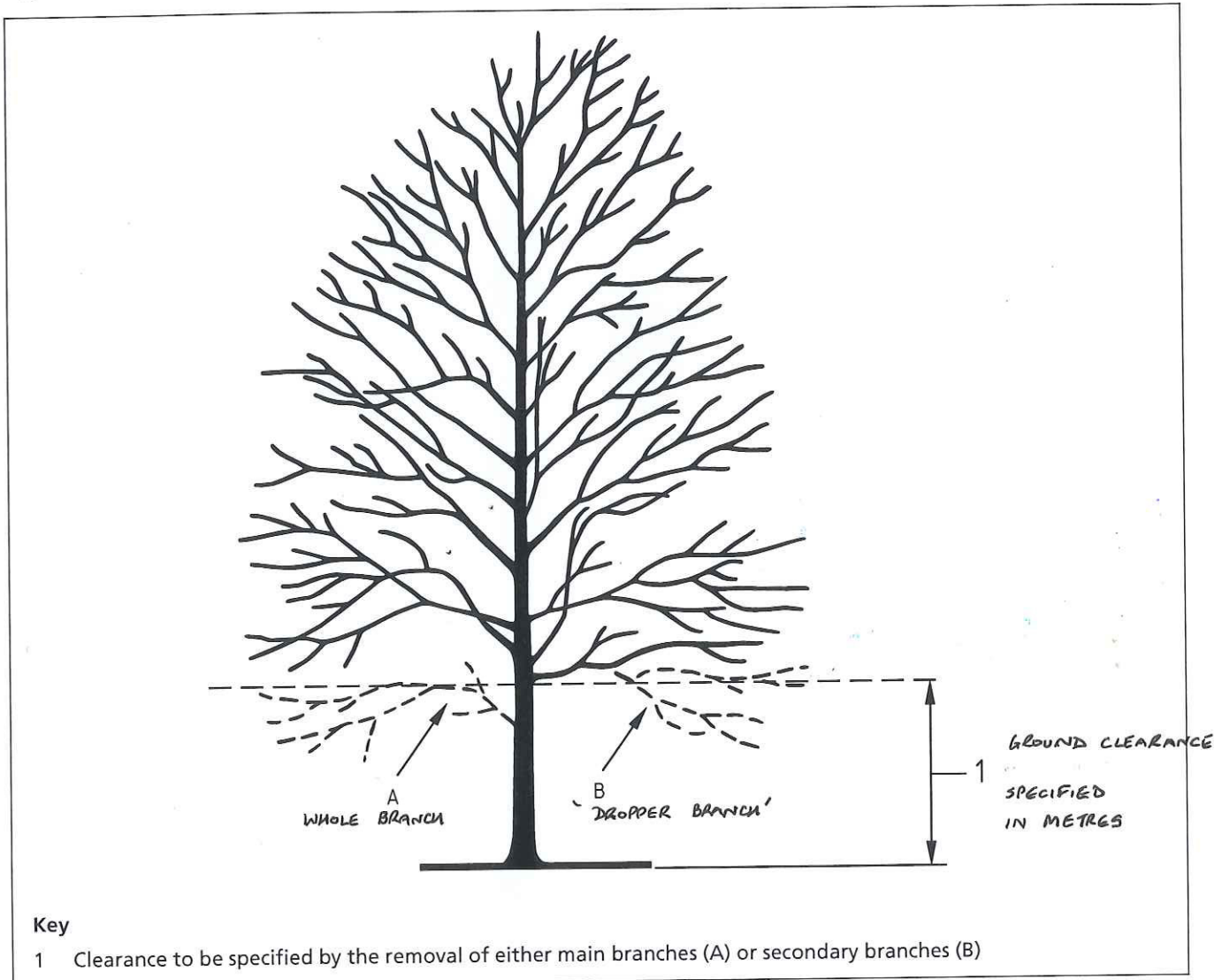


Figure 4 Diagrammatic illustration of crown reduction

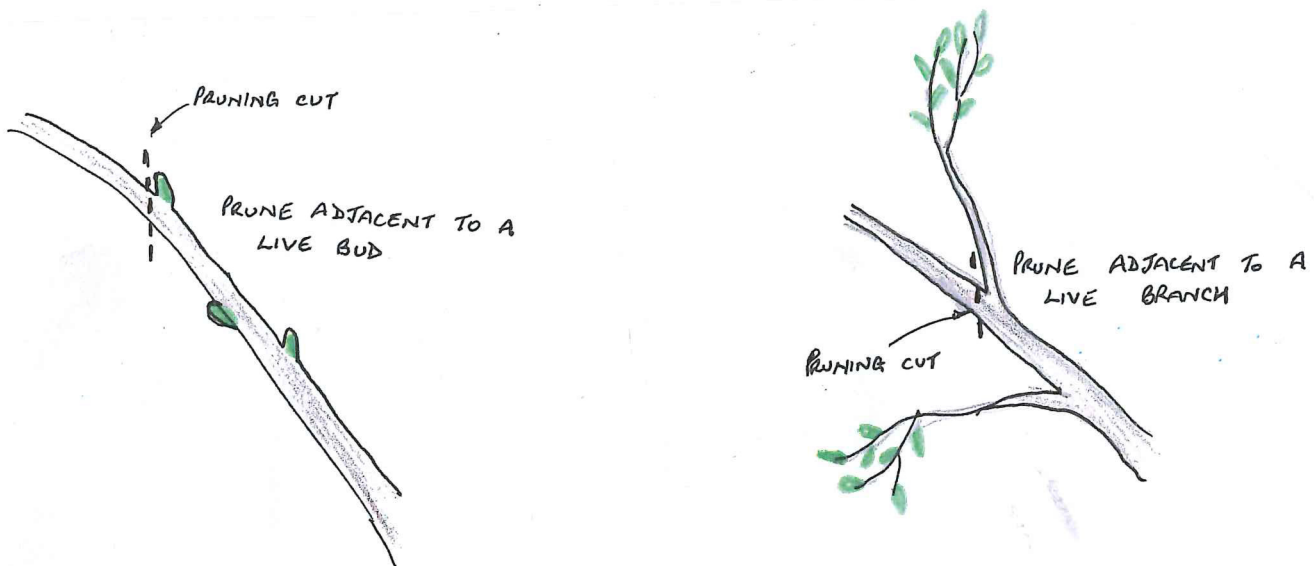
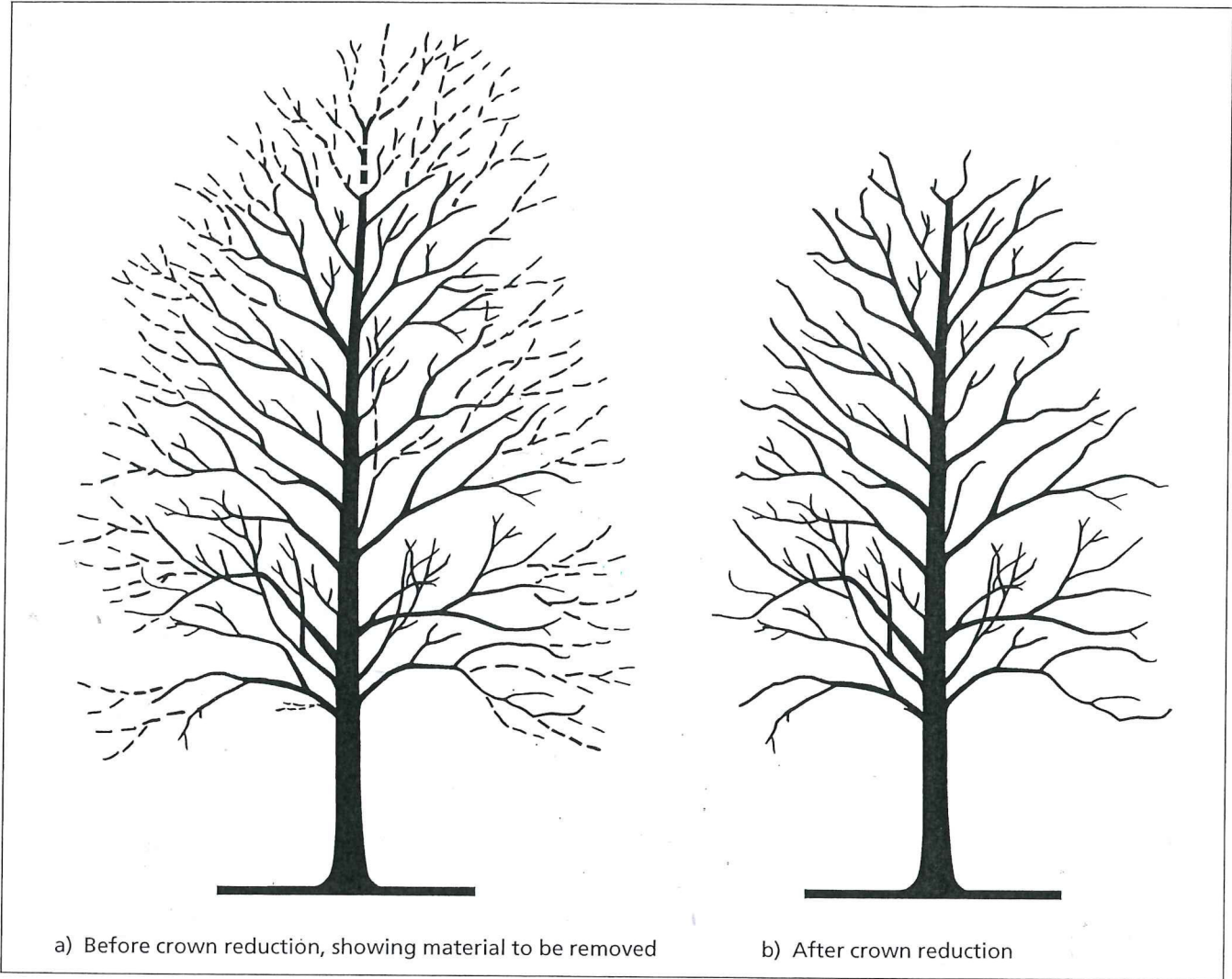


Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

