

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: FG/73/18/T

Location: 33 Ocean Drive, Ferring

Description of works: Reduce radial crown spread of 1No. Sweet Chestnut by 3m North aspect

Reasons Given: 1) To maintain reasonable clearance from property. 2) To increase light to the property

Comments on Application:

Sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa* (Easternmost tree in linear group of 3x early-mature sweet chestnut)

Height: Approx. 10m Average spread: 4m Age: Early-mature

- The plan provided with the application shows the approximate position of one tree, where three are present in a close grouping. This leaves some room for ambiguity, although there is a logical interpretation which can be made, hence my description of the one tree proposed work above.
- The group is highly visible to traffic and adjacent properties.
- Outwardly they appear to be in a fine physiological state. Crown form is moderate and they benefit from group cohesion at such an exposed location. Previously 'lopped' at around 7m height.
- The work proposed involves the approximate reduction of half the North radial spread (overhanging 31 Ocean Drive).
- The removal of dead branches is an exception and does not require permission.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified in that it will achieve adequate building clearance and balance the group's shared canopy profile on its North aspect.
- This work will not incur a noteworthy loss of amenity value to the surrounding area.

Recommendations:

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

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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
- 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 interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team