

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: FG/81/18/T

Location: Home Farm House, 63 Ferringham Lane, Ferring

Description of works: Reduce 1No. Ilex Oak by 1m below the previous reduction points, crown reduction of 1No. Ilex Oak by 2m & height reduction of 2m to 1No. Eucalyptus

Reasons Given: Health and Safety requirements

Comments on Application:

T1 - Holm oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Approx. Height: 14m	Ave. Spread: 6m	Age class: Mature
T2 - Holm oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Approx. Height: 10m	Ave. Spread: 5m	Age class: Mature
T3 – Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	Approx. Height: 11m	Ave. Spread: 4m	Age class: Early mature

- T1 appears to be in a fine physiological state. It is visible to traffic using Brook Lane and from neighbouring properties. It has previously been subject to crown reduction work, as approved by the Local Planning Authority. This application seeks to repeat those works.
- T2 has endured significant storm damage (partial windthrow) but stabilised and grown on to form a visually attractive but asymmetric shared crown profile. There are two dominant stems within a cluster. Historic ‘topping’ at 2-3m height and a subsequent reduction at 8m have encouraged the development of a wide spreading and relatively heavy crown that appears to be compromising the structural integrity of the root-plate.
- T3 has low density and associated dead branches across the upper crown periphery, suggesting some physiological distress. Reduction in height as proposed will remove the declining material. The crown profile lends itself to a visually satisfactory form being retained.

Conclusions:

- All proposed works are justified on arboricultural grounds and will not incur undue detriment to public amenity.
- The substantial but necessary loss of canopy from T2 will temporarily detract from the visual amenity currently provided, but crown renewal is anticipated.

Recommendations:

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

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.
- The removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established ‘knuckles’ so as not to extend below the point of origin.

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