

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: FG/85/21/T

Location: 4 Jersey Road Ferring BN12 5PZ

Description of works: To crown lift 1no. Monterey pine (T1, North tree) to 5m from over both road and garden. To crown lift 1no. Monterey pine (T2, South tree) to 5m from over both road and garden and to reduce radial crown spread to east by up to 1.5m from over garden

Reasons given: 1. To comply with highway regulations 2. To maintain reasonable clearance from over and to allow more light into, the garden

Comments on Application:

T1 Monterey pine / <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Mature
T2 Monterey pine / <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from distance (roadside) both trees appear to be in a fine physiological state (and assumed to be so in the absence of any information/evidence provided to the contrary). They have developed attractive crown profiles.
- They are large and prominent; highly visible from surrounding properties and to traffic travelling through the estate. As such they have high amenity value.
- Pruning of small diameter branches to achieve 5metres overhead clearance above carriageway is necessary to ensure unobstructed passage for high-sided vehicles and ought not to be detrimental to the tree's overall visual amenity.
- Overhead clearance above property is mostly adequate. The removal/reduction of branches on the West aspect to achieve 5metres overhead clearance is excessive when combined with carriageway clearance, although individual limbs on Northern aspects are becoming problematic and could be removed without detriment to visual amenity.

Conclusions:

- The removal of low branches to achieve 5m clearance above ground level simultaneously on East and West aspects is not justified on arboricultural grounds and the extent of crown volume loss likely to exceed that which is recommended in the British Standard (BS3998:2010) Tree work – Recommendations.
- *Crown reduction* pruning on the West aspect over garden has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- Shade cast by the trees does not appear excessive or to impact substantially on the enjoyment of any dwelling or garden.

Recommendations:

- As it stands, I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.
- **I would like the applicant to be invited to agree to a revised proposal for lesser works** (such as described below) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay. Such work would go some way to addressing their concerns whilst preventing a diminution of the trees landscape and public amenity value:
 - T1 & T2 Remove/reduce branches as necessary to achieve maximum 5metres overhead clearance above carriageway
 - T1 Remove two low and declining limbs, from Northern aspect (see figure 1).
 - T2 Remove one low limb from Northern aspect (see figure 2)



Fig.1. T1



Fig.2. T2

- If the applicant is prepared to re-submit in line with this advice, then I would be able to recommend APPROVAL subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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 interests of the trees 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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

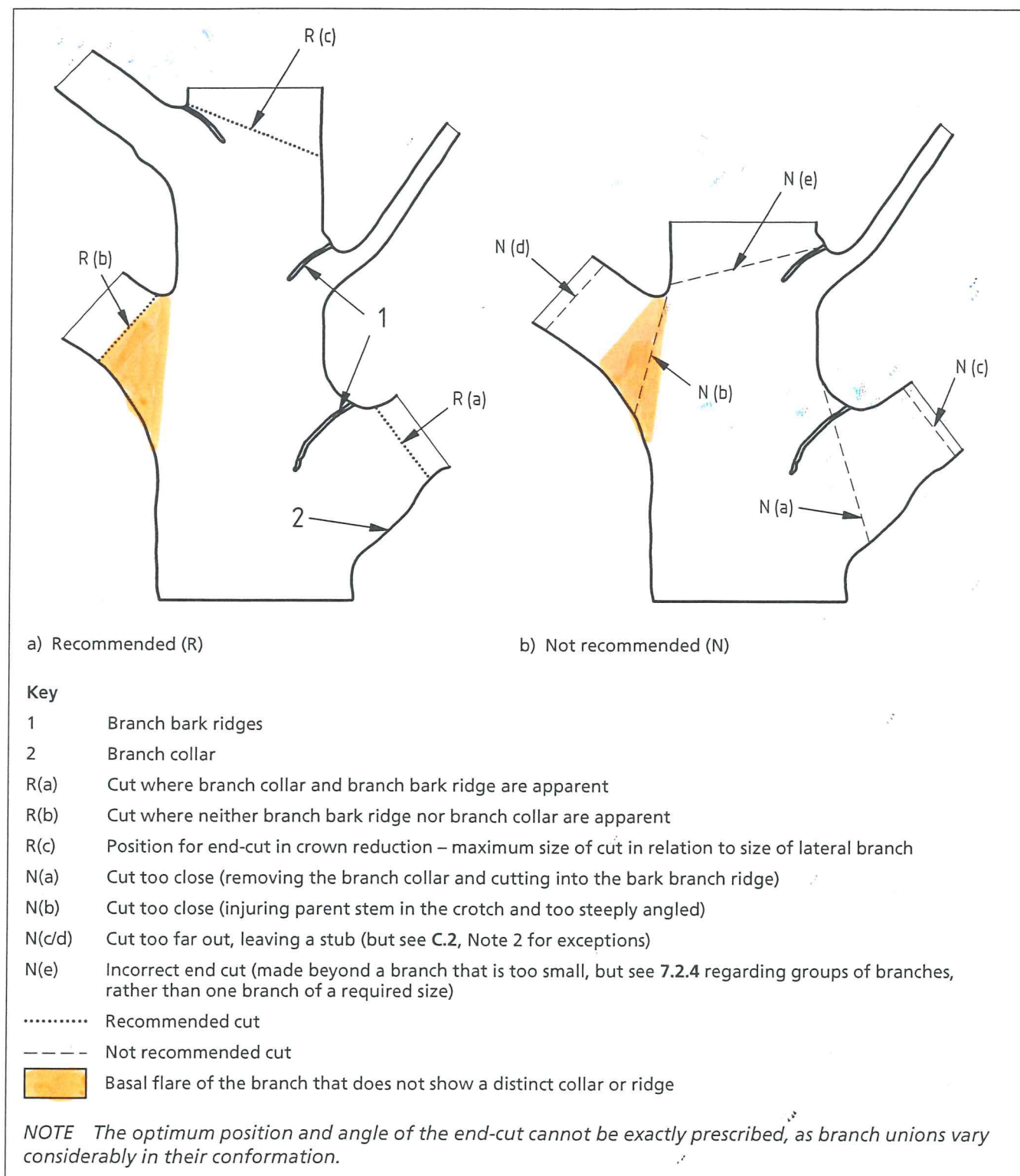


Figure 3 Crown lifting

