

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE CONSULTATION

FROM: Ian Brewster TO: Janice Chapman

PLANNING APPLICATION: FG/58/12/T

ADDRESS: 33 Ferringham Lane Ferring BN12 5NB

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Reduce canopy by 5m, crown raise to 4m and reduce laterals to blend and shape to 1 No Holm Oak and reduce upper canopy by 2 m to previous pruning points and crown raise to 6m and reduce laterals to blend and shape to 1 No Sycamore tree

INSPECTION DATE: 24th May 2012

Objection ☒ No Objection ☐ Suggested Conditions ☒Comment ☒ Recommendation ☐ Abate a Nuisance ☐Tree Replacement ☐ Dead/Dangerous ☐ CA & Amenity Value ☐**Comments:**

I have visited the site and inspected both the Evergreen Oak and Sycamore. Both trees show a thinner crown and reduced leaf size.

The crown of the Sycamore contain large dead branches and does not appear to be progressive, halting at healthy side branch locations. There is a risk that these could fail and due to their location, within the highway, should be removed. The crown of this tree is irregular and could benefit from some crown modification by sympathetic pruning. Considering the fair condition of the Sycamore I see no good reason to lift by 6m and reduce by 2m the crown of the tree as this is regarded as excessive.

The condition of the Evergreen Oak tree is fair to poor with localised *Ganoderma spp* fungal bracket formations either side of a main western buttress root. Reducing the crown to the previous pollard points approximately 5m from the branch tips inwards may invigorate tree health and reduce wind loading and stress upon the main stem. A crown raise to 4m is excessive and it is recommended that a 2.5m crown lift would be sufficient to remove obstructing branches from passing pedestrians.

Planning conditions for the two trees have been suggested, as follows;

Condition 1: Crown Reduction for the Sycamore

- The Crown Reduction should not be applicable for the entire crown.
- Branch lengths which grow beyond a natural crown outline should be reduced by a maximum of **1.5m**.
- All pruning cuts must leave healthy leaf bearing side branches which are **1/3rd** or greater in diameter of the removed branch.
- Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible and cut at an optimum angle by leaving the branch collar intact.
- Pruning wounds of all removed live branches must not exceed **60mm** in diameter.

REASON

'In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of retaining good health and amenity in accordance with policy GEN7 of the Arun District Local Plan'.

Condition 2: Crown Reduction for the Evergreen Oak

- Part of the crown reduction is a re-pollard and heavy reduction of the upper crown where pruning cuts should not exceed **100mm** in diameter and branches **5m** in length.
- **100mm** minimum length live stubs from the 'knuckle point' should be retained.
- The final pruning cuts must be clean, smooth and perpendicular to the direction of the pollarded branch.
- Lateral branch growths should be reduced to balance and shaped by a lesser amount with maximum branch lengths to be removed not to exceed **3m** and pruning wounds to not exceed **60mm** in diameter.

REASON

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Condition 3: Dead wooding for both trees

- When removing dead wood from the crown the live branch collar must be retain and not damaged.
- There must be no flush cutting against the parent branch or main stem.

REASON

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Conditions 4: Crown Lift for both trees

- The crown of both trees will be pruned to provide a vertical clearance above ground level over the highway up to **5m** and **2.5m** over the footpath.
- Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than **100mm** should be shortened and no more than **15%** of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed, to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

REASON

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Ian Brewster
Arboriculturist