

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (**REF NO:** FG/96/12/T**LOCATION:** 33 Ferringham Lane
Ferring**PROPOSAL:** Reduce canopy by 1.5m and raise crown to 5m above highway and 2.5m above footpath to 1 No Holm Oak tree & 1 No Sycamore tree**SITE AND SURROUNDINGS**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	n/a
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DEN	n/a
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat
TREES	Many trees within the locality, Holm Oak and Sycamore subject of the application.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	Open to highway.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Highway verge.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Tree lined residential street.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

FG/111/11/T	Fell 1 no. Ilex Oak tree	Refused 19-10-2011
FG/58/12/T	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	Refused 27-06-2012

The application has been amended following refusal on FG/58/12/T in accordance with the Arboricultural Officer's recommendations.

REPRESENTATIONS**Representations received:**

None.

Comments on Representations received:

n/a

CONSULTATIONS

Council's Arboriculturalist

Consultations responses received:

West Sussex Wildlife Protection - No lopping or tree surgery due to nesting birds.

Arboricultural Officer - No objection.

I accept the proposals for tree works to both Evergreen Oak and Sycamore.

Considering the Evergreen Oak had been previously pruned to create pollard points 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. Conditions suggested in respect of crown reduction, dead wooding and crown lift.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Noted

POLICY CONTEXT

Within Built Up Area
Tree Preservation Order

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

Arun District Local Plan:

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

SUPPLEMENTARY POLICY GUIDANCE

XXX1	Circular 36/78
XXX2	DETR TPO's A guide to Law and Good Practice

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than Circular 36/78 and DETR TPOs, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:
"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

The Sycamore and Oak are distinctive and prominent street scene features that help define the

report

semi-rural nature of the surrounding area. The trees overhang the highway and it is therefore acknowledged that surgery is necessary from time to time to keep the size of the trees in check and ensure they can coexist with the surrounding built-up environment. This is also beneficial to the trees as it reduces the risk of damage being caused by contact with passing vehicles.

The Council's arboriculturalist agrees with the principle of the works and has indicated that the level of the crown lift proposed is in accordance with detailed comments he made following the refusal of the previous proposals. These would retain the amenity values of both trees and the valuable contribution they provide towards the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

The Arboriculturalist has set out some detailed conditions and it is therefore recommended that the application is approved subject to these conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

- 1
 - 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.

- 2
 - 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: 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.

- 3
 - When removing dead wood from the crown the live branch collar must be retained and not damaged. There must be no flush cutting against the parent branch or main stem.

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.

- 4 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: 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.