

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 3rd December 2025

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper

Reference: FP/151/25/T

Location: Wyke Lane, Felpham, PO22 8LE

Proposal: Fell 1no. ash (T-A). Crown reduction to 1no. cherry (T-B) to a height of 9.5m and a radial spread of 4.75m and removal of deadwood. Crown reduction to 1no. maple (T-C) to leave radial spreads on the north-east and west quadrants of 4-4.5m. Crown reduction to 1no. ash (T-D) to leave lateral branches in the lower half of the crown with 4m radial spreads, crown raise to 4.5m and removal of deadwood.

Reasons: Risk management (disease progression)

Comments on Application:

T-A and T-D are subjects of a preservation order – Bognor No.4 (A7) - 1962.

T-B and T-C are not subjects of any Order or within Conservation Area, so need not be considered further.

T-A Ash / <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Height: 15-20m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
T-D Ash / <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Early mature

Both ash are established and prominent features in the road, contributing to the mature verdant character of the estate. As such, there must be sound arboricultural justification for substantial work.

T-A - A high-level pollard. Dead branches are numerous and distributed throughout the crown although pronounced on the south side. I saw no evidence of Chalara ash dieback, although is far from an optimal time of year to observe symptoms. Basal decay as identified by the applicant, is a significant ongoing concern and may be associated with poor crown condition.

T-D – A more attractive tree with relatively unmodified crown. Again, I saw no evidence of Chalara ash dieback, although is far from an optimal time of year to observe symptoms. There is some moderate deadwood content. There is no obvious arboricultural justification for such extensive pruning of lateral branches. Overhead clearance on all aspects is not obviously problematic and in proportionate with the tree's surroundings.

The removal of so much crown material in one operation would impose a stress on the tree, which would reduce its potential to resist any disease or environmental stress.

The removal of deadwood is exempt work. Prior notice to or consent from the local planning authority is not required.

Conclusions:

T-A – The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. The applicant has proposed a suitable tree type as replacement, which can be secured by condition.

T-D – The work proposed has not been justified on arboricultural grounds. Any material obstructing the safe passage of vehicles on the road or to access the applicant's property, can be attended to within the limitations of exempt works, as described in the exceptions for dealing with actionable nuisance and dangerous trees or branches. [Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas)

The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendation:

As it stands, I am unable to support this application. I **would like the applicant invited to agree to remove T-D from the proposal, as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay, ensuring no detriment to tree health or loss of amenity:**

If the applicant agrees to the above revision then I would be able to recommend we grant consent, subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Once the tree (T-A) has been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within five metres, free from the interference of established tree canopy so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown.

This is to be of Selected Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the ash tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Wild service *Sorbus torminalis*

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Turkish hazel *Corylus colurna*

Hop hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia*

The selected tree(s) must be viable for long-term retention in the landscape after a period of five years from the date of this decision notice. Any tree dead, dying or considered unviable for long-term retention by the council's tree officer, will need to be replaced to the satisfaction of the local planning authority within 12 months of that determination.

Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

[REDACTED]

FP/151/25/T

PL- consultation- tree officer response

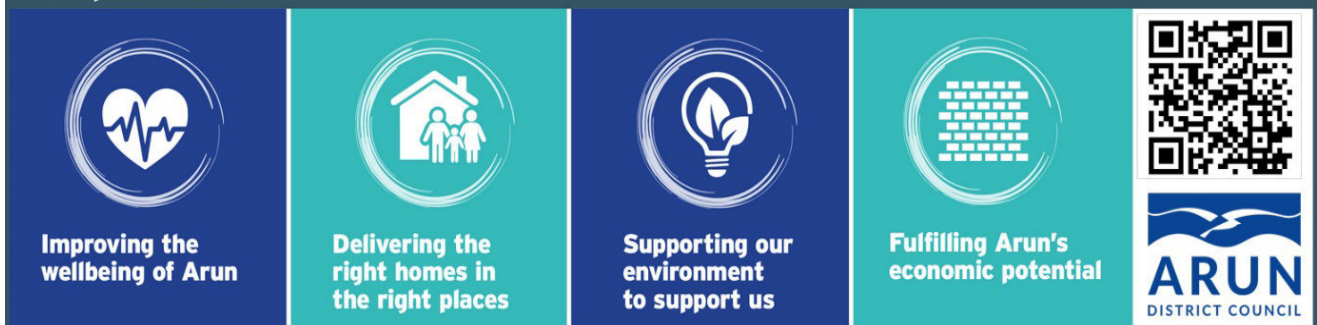
[REDACTED]

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Our priorities...



From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 December 2025 13:23
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: FP/151/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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