

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: FP/15/18/TC

Location: 24 Limmer Lane, Felpham

Description of works: Fell group of conifers and various works to trees

Reasons Given: N/a

Comments on Application:

Front garden

- These trees are of most significance, as the property frontage has an open aspect and is elevated above the adjacent busy public highway. The bay and laurel appear to be in fine physiological condition and should respond with vigour to the proposed work with no adverse effect on their long-term vitality.
- Conifers as a group are an interesting feature on the front lawn, but are individually of low value. They have probably attained maximum character value and are not a long-term proposition. It will have a slight but nonetheless negative impact on the character of the streetscape but there are more substantive trees locally which will compensate for the loss. It is an ideal location for an ornamental feature tree so I am hopeful there will be a replacement in due course.

Rear garden

- The multi-stemmed holly cluster, gage and cotoneaster trees are attractive garden features but of limited visibility to neighbouring properties and only of moderate form.
- The over-mature plum has a history of scaffold limb failure, a significantly decayed scaffold limb and only moderate shoot extension. It is clearly in decline and felling is a reasonable course of action at this time.

Conclusions:

- The majority of work proposed can be justified as reasonable management, although it is a shame to see heavy crown reduction imposed on the holly cluster and removal of the front garden conifer group with no stated proposal for a replacement feature tree(s).
- None of these trees are individually worthy of an Order (TPO) and there are neighbouring trees that provide more amenity value due to their greater stature and more sympathetic pruning history, to adequately compensate for the temporary loss of canopy. The overall character of the immediate area will not be unduly diminished by undertaking this work.

Recommendations:

- I raise **No Objection** to the works that have been applied for and see no reason to make a TPO in this instance.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team