

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of report: 15th December 2025

Case Officer: Silvie Steiningerova
Reference: FP/161/25/T
Location: Land outside of 75 Outerwyke Road, Felpham, PO22 8LR
Proposal: Fell 1no. oak (T1,000,020)
Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

T1,000,020 is a subject of an area tree preservation order – Bognor No.5 (A4).

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

I have considered this application by means of a desktop review, using the information submitted as well as online resources. Previous consideration from site and familiarity with surrounding area provide further insight to the proposal.

The applicant/agent has provided a comprehensive and qualified assessment of the tree's condition with which I concur, having made my own cursory inspection in passing, prior to submission of this application.

It is evident that the tree is diseased, with symptoms collectively suggesting with high confidence that a parasitic fungus is decaying the stem base and structurally important roots. It presents an unacceptable level of risk and there is no satisfactory remedial pruning option to mitigate.

Its loss will be keenly felt given it is a native oak, large and long-established. We should welcome the replacement tree planting proposal, which can be secured by condition. There is no suitable location nearby in the public highway, so exploiting the wider grass verge as near as practical (Thirlmere Way) is acceptable.

Conclusions:

The proposed work has been justified on arboricultural grounds.

This is an important tree in the landscape; its removal will incur a notable loss of amenity. A suitable replacement tree is proposed for a nearby verge where it should be able to grow unimpeded and ultimately provide some compensation.

Recommendation:

We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled then a replacement tree is to be planted in wide grass verge (between footway and carriageway) to the east of 1 Thirlmere Way, free from the interference of established or developing tree canopy, so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown towards maturity.

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 oak tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

Field maple *Acer campestre*

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*

The selected tree 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

From: Nicola Spencer on behalf of Planning.Responses
Sent: 18 December 2025 10:10
To: Planning Scanning
Subject: FW: FP/161/25/T
Attachments: FP.161.25.T.pdf

PL- Consultation – tree officer response

Nicola Spencer
Technical Support Manager
Planning Services

T: 01903 737945
E: nicola.spencer@arun.gov.uk

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 December 2025 17:06
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Silvie Steiningerova <Silvie.Steiningerova@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: FP/161/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk