

**Planning Officer:** Richard Sherman

**Planning Application Ref:** FP/165/21/T

**Location:** 44 Downview Road, Felpham, PO22 8HH

**Description of works:** (T1) Crown reduction to 1no. copper beech tree to a height of 18 metres and a spread of 15 metres

**Reasons given:** None stated

**Comments on Application:**

**Beech / *Fagus sylvatica Purpurea*** Height: 15-20m, Radial spread: 5-10m, Age class: Mature

- At time of inspection, I was unable to gain access to rear of either 44 or 46 so am reliant on aerial photograph (2018) to understand the tree's situation relative to dwellings and the agent to provide any necessary details of comprehensive tree assessment.
- Outwardly and from a distance (roadside) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state and assumed to be so in the absence of any evidence provided to the contrary. It has a full and visually impressive crown. It can be clearly seen from surrounding properties and by users of the public highway (footway and carriageway). It is likely to be a tree of high public amenity value.

**Conclusions:**

- This tree requires careful management that respects its age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression.
- 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 has not been justified on arboricultural grounds and would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

**Recommendation:**

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Mark Warwick  
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team