

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: FP/166/17/T

Location : 54 Outerwyke Road, Bognor Regis

Description of works: 8m height reduction & 4m lateral reduction to 1 No Poplar.

Applicants Reasons: Tree is a safety concern and has become too large casting dense shade.

Comments On Application:

T 1 – Hybrid Black Poplar *Populus x euroamericana* Height = 26m Avge spread = 10m Age = Mature

- This is a significant tree in the landscape and appears sound and healthy and very vigorous.
- It is positioned on a West Sussex County Council verge outside No 54 adjacent to the road and thus is not in the ownership of the applicants at No 76.
- Given the species of tree concerned and its propensity to shed limbs at this age - having previously been very heavily topped out at 8m from ground level in the past – I can see why the applicants might have concerns over its safety.
- As such I would have no issue with the amount of heavy reduction and reshaping of the crown which has been requested in order to get its vigorous growth habit back under control.

Conclusions:

- *I sympathise with the applicants concerns for the safety of this tree and am able to recommend approval for the pruning requested but this does not give the applicant clearance to undertake the works. In order to do this they will have to first seek the approval of the owner of the tree. Failure to do so might render them liable to a legal action from the owners for trespass and damage to property.*

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** of this application as described in the application details and subject to the following **conditions** and also **subject to the applicants gaining the tree owners approval** prior to commencing any works:-

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- Where whole branches are to be removed and final cuts made close to the trunk or branch union they are to be made as shown in Figure 2 of BS3998:2010
- Where branches are to be shortened back the final cuts are to be made at the correct angle shown in BS3998:2010 and adjacent to a live bud or lateral.

Reasons : In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

- *See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter.*



Consultant Arboriculturist