

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: FP/178/21/T

Location: Junction of Wyke Lane North/Roundle Rd and Roundle Square, o/s 1 & 2 Roundle Avenue and West side of Roundle Square, Felpham, PO22 8LB

Description of works: Various works to various trees

Reasons given: General maintenance, health and safety

Comments on Application:

T1, T2 Lombardy poplar / *Populus nigra Italica* Height: 15-20m, Radial spread: 0-5m, Age class: Mature

T6 Common ash / *Fraxinus excelsior* Height: 15-20m, Radial spread: 5-10m, Age class: Mature

- The applicant has employed CM Tree Care Ltd. to prepare and submit a tree survey and plans, which recommends a variety of tree work operations.
- There is one Tree Preservation Order which may affect those trees (Bognor No.4), an area Order. Having considered the supporting Schedule and plans, I am satisfied that only items T1, T2 and T6 could be subjects of that Order. Consent from the local planning authority is not required for any work proposed for the other items listed.
- T1 and T2 have effectively been 'topped' in the past and this application seeks to repeat that operation. The extent of regrowth since last undertaken is such that it is now necessary to maintain a degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location.
- T6 is to sustain minor works to address a structural defect, which ought not to incur any loss of amenity.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed has been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The proposal to reduce overall height and spread (T1, T2) with a view to restricting their growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority. While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendation:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following condition:

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

Part a) 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

Part b) 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.

Part c) The removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established 'knuckles' so as not to extend beyond the point of origin.

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

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of trees (**T1, T2**) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid-winter (late-December to early-February) period. The work should only be undertaken during this period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

