

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: FP/181/17/T

Location : 22 Felpham Way, Felpham

Description of works: Beech T1 – reduce height by 3m + reduce lateral spread by 2m and crown lifting to 3m and thin canopy by 15%.

Applicants Reasons Reduce sail effect and shading and improve vigour.

Comments On Application:

T1 - Beech *Fagus sylvatica* Height = 20m Avge spread = 6m Age = Mature

- This is a large tree that makes a significant impact in the landscape and merits its TPO status.
- As far as I can ascertain it is sound and healthy.

Conclusions:

- I have no problem with the crown lifting to achieve a 3m ground clearance.
- I have no problem with the height reduction by 3m.
- Balancing this with a 2m lateral spread reduction is also acceptable and all of this will not undermine the tree visual impact or adversely affect its vigour and vitality.
- However, thinning will not be good for this tree as it will allow the wind inside the canopy where it is not braced against such vortices and as a result it exposes the tree to pressures and the high probability of branch failures – better to allow the outer branches to do their job and resist the wind pressures and the reduced area will adequately reduce the sail area as desired.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the height reduction by 3m and spread reduction by 2m and crown lifting to achieve a 3m ground clearance.
- I recommend **REFUSAL** for the thinning works requested as this would be detrimental to the trees vigour and vitality.

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.*

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist