

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: FP/182/17/T

Location : 81 Downview Road, Felpham

Description of works: reduce crown to previous pollard points (approx. 4m) to 3 No Sycamores

Applicants Reasons None provided.

Comments On Application:

T1; 2 & 3 - Sycamores *Acer pseudoplatanus* Height = 10m Avge spread = 5m Age = Early Mature

- Three trees which have been maintained on a heavy lopping cyclic pruning regime in the past.
- There are cavities in some but not all of the old pruning points and the crowns are comprised of regrowth from around the old pruning wounds.
- They have been topped out at 4m and 6m above ground level in the past.

Conclusions:

- These trees make a significant contribution in the landscape.
- I can see that crown reduction works would improve matters for the applicants as the trees dominate the front garden and am sympathetic to this.
- The stated reduction to 4m would leave them devoid of foliage and completely undermine their value in the landscape as TPO'd trees.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** of this application on the grounds that these are trees of high amenity value in the landscape and the pruning works requested would exceed BS3998 recommendations and would totally undermine their amenity value.

ADVISORY:

I suggest that the applicant re-submits seeking the following:-

- Crown reduction to 6m above ground level to the height of previous pruning points and no lower.

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist