

## CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Case Officer:** Silvie Steiningerova

**Reference:** FP/182/25/T

**Location:** 4 Ceres Place, Felpham, PO22 7RG

**Proposal:** Fell 1no. pine (T1), fell 1no. holly (T3). Crown reduction to 1no. hornbeam (T5) to leave a height of 5m and spread of 4m. Removal of deadwood from 1no. pine (T2) and 1no. sycamore (T4).

**Reason:** T1 – Heavily decayed around base and fungus present

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### Comments on Application:

T1 & T2 are subjects of a preservation order – Bognor No.14.

Work proposed for T2 is exempt from the normal application process and T3, T4 & T5 are not subjects of any Order or within Conservation Area, so need not be considered further.

|                                                |                |                      |                   |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>T1 Monterey pine / <i>Pinus radiata</i></b> | Height: 15-20m | Radial spread: 5-10m | Age class: Mature |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|

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The removal of deadwood is an exception. Prior notice to or consent from the local planning authority is not required.

There are two Monterey pine trees upon the plot and in close proximity. They share a root system and are of similar age, although T1 is clearly dominant. T2 has suppressed form and is in a fair physiological state. It remains to be seen whether it will thrive after removal of T1, but is useful in amenity terms, at least until such time as a replacement for T1 is established.

T1 has a truncated main stem which at approximately half height gives way to a previously subordinate leader supporting a healthy crown. Unfortunately the stem is significantly decayed; revealed by several open cavities exposing brown cubical rot. An active fungal bracket (probably Dyers Mazegill / *Phaeolus schweinitzii*) at the stem base suggests the root system will also be structurally compromised. As such, the tree is hazardous given its location and potential target areas.

### Conclusions:

T1 - The proposed work is justified on arboricultural grounds. There are no remedial pruning options available to mitigate the risk of stem failure. Whilst its removal will have a notable impact on the landscape, there is room to plant a replacement tree of similar ultimate size and character, and a more suitable species, which can be secured by condition.

T2 – T5 incl. – Prior consent for proposed work is not required from the local planning authority.

**Recommendation:**

We grant consent for this application subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Once the tree has been felled (and either grubbed or ground out) then a replacement tree is to be planted in the same place or nearby and to within five metres, free from the interference of established and developing tree canopy so that it may develop an upright and uniform crown towards maturity.

This is to be of Selected Standard Nursery Stock proportions (10-12cm girth & 2m to 3m overall height) supported on a 'short stake' system with appropriate securing ties and pads.

It is to be planted within 12 months of the removal of the pine tree.

The species shall be selected from the following:-

**Scots pine** *Pinus sylvestris*

**Corsican Pine** *Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*

**Austrian pine** *Pinus nigra Austriaca*

The selected trees must be viable for long-term retention in the landscape after a period of five years from the date of this decision notice. Any tree dead, dying or considered unviable for long-term retention by the council's tree officer, will need to be replaced to the satisfaction of the local planning authority within 12 months of that determination.

**Reasons:** To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Mark Warwick

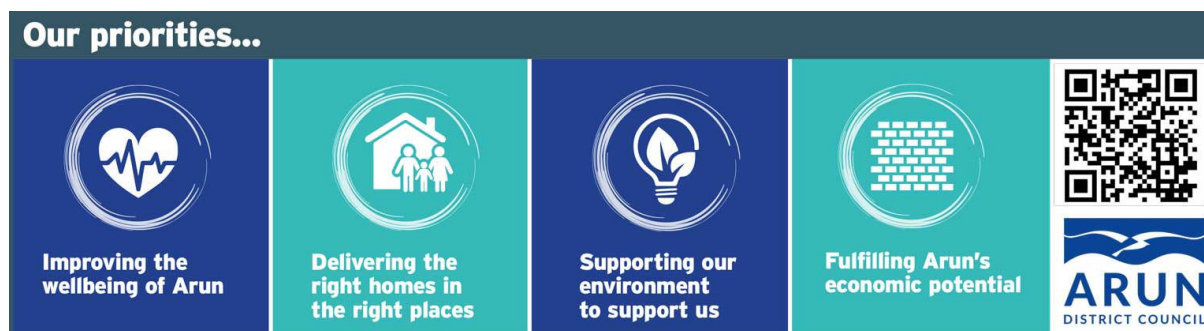
Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

PL- consultation- tree officer response

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**Subject:** FP/182/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

**Mark Warwick**  
**Tree Officer,** Environment and Climate Change

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**[www.arun.gov.uk](http://www.arun.gov.uk)**