

From: Mark Warwick
Sent: 15 March 2019 16:01
To: Charlotte Easton
Cc: Planning.Responses
Subject: FP/1/19/T

Charlotte

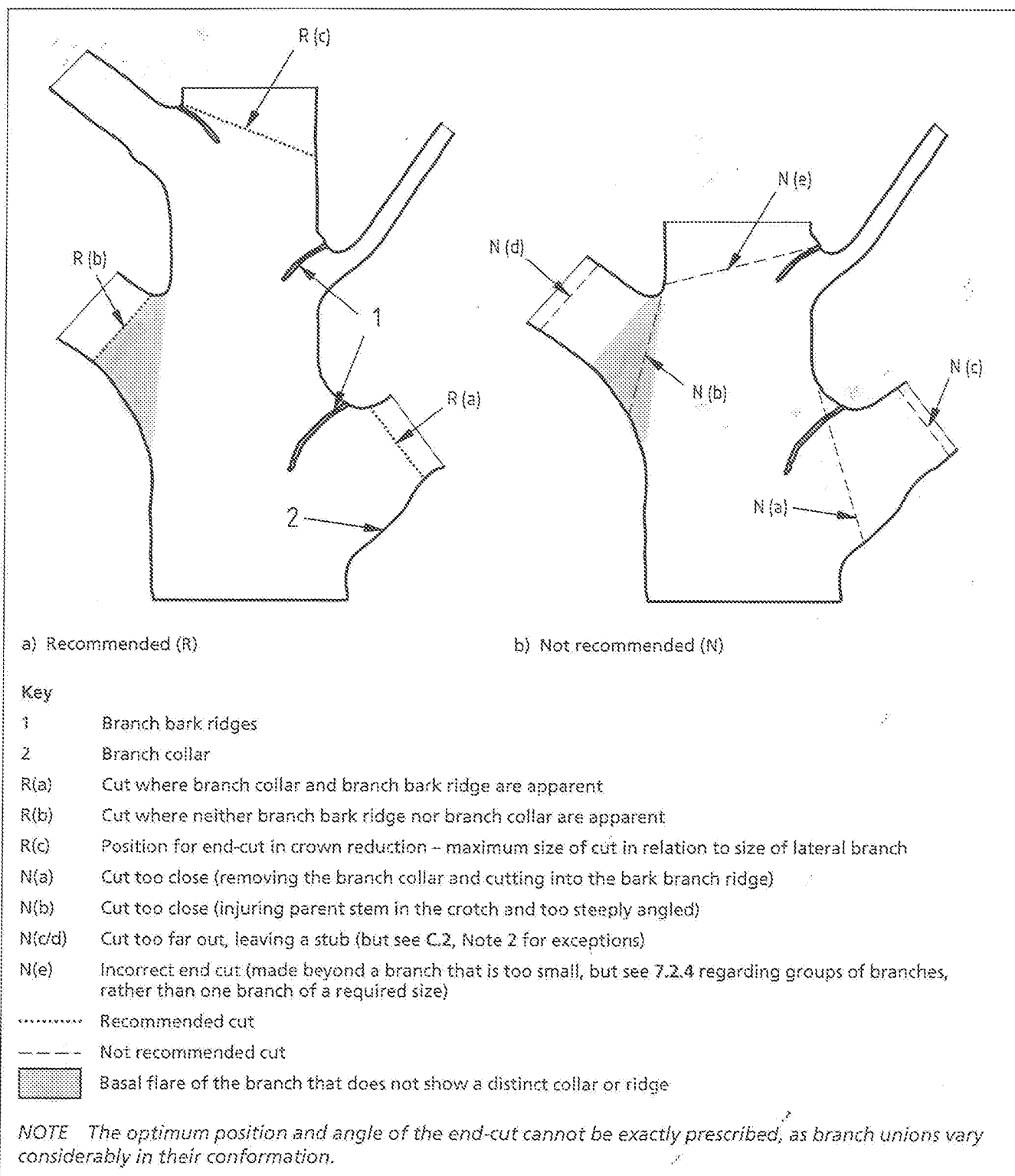
Please find attached my comments/observations for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

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Figure 2 Positions of final cuts



Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: FP/1/19/T

Location: Eaton Lodge, 2 Crossbush Road, Bognor Regis, PO22 7LS

Description of works: Crown reduction 2.5m & Crown thin 25% to 1 no. lime tree and 1 no. evergreen oak tree. Crown reduction 1.5m to 2 no. birch trees

Reasons Given: Excessive shading, leaf-fall, overgrown, interfering with BT lines

Comments on Application:

Note: Tree numbers below (eg.T1) are for the sole purpose of interpreting this application (no tree reference numbers were provided) and have no relationship (intended or otherwise) with those referred to elsewhere, such as may be recorded on the original Tree Preservation Order.

T1 – Holm oak / <i>Quercus ilex</i>	Height: Approx.12m	Average spread: 5m	Age class: Mature
T2 – Lime / <i>Tilia sp.</i>	Height: Approx.12m	Average spread: 5m	Age class: Mature
T3, T4 – Silver birch / <i>Betula pendula</i>	Height: Approx.10m	Average spread: 2.5m	Age class: Early mature

- Outwardly and from a distance these trees appear to be in a fine physiological state.
- T1 is of good form with an attractive crown profile. It grows to the front of the property and makes a significant visual contribution to the street-scene.
- T2 has an attractive crown profile when viewed from the highway aspect, but is otherwise asymmetric having been pruned to maintain adequate property clearance. It has been the subject of severe ‘topping’ at 3-4m ht. and subsequently left to grow-on resulting in a heavy and congested limb/branch framework. It too, grows to the front of the property and makes a significant visual contribution to the street-scene.
- T3 and T4 are discreetly located within the front garden, obscured by more established boundary trees and other vegetation such that they have little if any public amenity value.

Conclusions:

- T1 – A reduction of the extent now proposed will irrevocably spoil this tree’s appearance. The combination of crown reduction and crown thinning work to the extent proposed would result in a potentially damaging loss of crown volume and has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- T2 – A reduction of the extent now proposed will incur a diminution of this tree’s aesthetic value. The combination of crown reduction and crown thinning work to the extent proposed would result in a damaging loss of crown volume. That said, I believe some form of reduction is necessary to reduce the risk of large limbs/branches failing and so is justified on arboricultural grounds.
- T3 and T4 – The extent of reduction work proposed if enacted to the full 1.5m on all aspects would be damaging, although I suspect this applies to the reduction of height and lateral spread will be more gently pruned to balance and retain adequate foliage bearing branches from which to maintain adequate vitality.

Recommendations:

- As it stands, I have to recommend **REFUSAL** for this application due to the unacceptable proposals for T1.

Advisory:

- I would like the applicant to revise their application, seeking lesser work by removing the T1 holm oak element.
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- If the applicant is prepared to re-submit in line with this advice, then I would be able to recommend APPROVAL subject to the following conditions:

Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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.
- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (mid-December to mid-February) periods. The work proposed must only be undertaken during these periods.

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.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team