

Planning Officer: Hannah Kersley

Planning Application Ref: FP/213/21/T

Location: 108 Limmer Lane, Felpham, PO22 7LP

Description of works: 1no. Lombardy poplar tree (T1) - re pollard to previous points. 1no. Norway maple tree (T2) lateral prune to source 3-4 lower branches heading east over the boundary wall. 1no. lime tree (T3) lateral prune to source 2-3 lower branches heading east over the boundary wall

Reason given: Risk management

Comments on Application:

Lombardy poplar / *Populus nigra Italica* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

- I have undertaken a desktop review of Tree Preservation Orders which may affect this plot. My understanding is that only Bognor No.3 could apply. Only T1 poplar is listed/shown on the associated Schedule and Plan. We do not need to consider T2 maple and T3 lime further.
- The applicant has employed Andrew Gale Tree Surgery Ltd. as agent, and to assess the tree and provide report on its condition. This is comprehensive and recommends pruning work to manage the tree in an appropriate state for its location.
- It grows at the front of the property and is prominent. It can be seen from numerous dwellings and by users of a major estate access road. As such, it has public amenity value.
- Whilst not explicitly stated in the application, it is assumed all low-level epicormic growth (small diameter shoots from dormant buds) will be removed at the same time.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The proposal to reduce overall height and spread with a view to restricting its 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 interest of the tree's 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 T1 poplar is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid-winter (late-December to early-February) period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

