

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton
Planning Application Ref: FP/236/18/T
Location: Barnfeld, Felpham, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO22 7DH
Description of works: Crown reduction of approx. 1-2m to 1 No. Beech Tree
Reasons Given: None given

Comments on Application:

Beech / *Fagus sylvatica* Height: Approx.9m Average spread: 4m Age class: Mature

- This tree appears to be outwardly healthy and stable. It presents a dense compact crown, having been the subject of past crown reduction work.
- It grows to the front of the property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings but has only limited visibility from publicly accessible land.
- It is very close to neighbouring built structure and discreetly located (for a tree of its size) in garden at the end of a shared footpath.
- The removal of dead branches is an exception and does not require permission.

Conclusions:

- The proposal to reduce its overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- There will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following conditions:

Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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.
- The long-term vitality of this tree is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the late-spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed must only be undertaken during this period.

Reasons: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team