

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: FP/244/17/T

Location: Bryony, Lionel Avenue, Felpham

Description of works: Crown reduction of 1 No Ash tree by 2.5m with 5m reduction of lateral spread and the removal of new lower branches

Applicants Reasons: To abate a nuisance and improve light percolation.

Comments On Application:

Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* Height = 16m Avge spread = 7m Age = Mature

- A mature tree in a highly prominent location.
- This tree is sound and healthy and vigorous and makes a significant contribution in the landscape.
- It has been heavily topped out in the past and is multi-stemmed at 2m agl with an open habit to the crown.

Conclusions:

- Reduction in height by 2.5m is acceptable.
- Reduction of the lateral spread by 5m would be excessive and exceed the recommendations of BS3998 and undermine the visual amenity value of this tree in the landscape.
- Crown lifting to provide a 5m ground clearance by removing the newly formed branches from the turn to a maximum diameter of 60mm would be acceptable.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the reduction in height by 2.5m and crown lifting of branches less than 60mm in diameter to a height from ground of 5m.
- I recommend **REFUSAL** for the reduction of lateral branches/spread by 5m as this would undermine this trees amenity value and be contrary to BS3998 recommendations.

ADVISORY

*If the applicant resubmits or alternatively agrees to a **2.5m maximum** lateral spread reduction then I would advise an approval.*

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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.

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.***

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist