

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: FP/248/18/T

Location: 29 Westmorland Drive, Felpham PO22 8NA

Description of works: Crown clean & 1-2m reduction on circumference to 1 No. Field Maple tree

Reasons Given: None provided

Comments on Application:

Field maple / *Acer campestre* Height: Approx.8m Average spread: 3m Age class: Mature

- This tree appears to be outwardly healthy and stable with a heavily modified crown. Its growth rate has likely been checked following the recent housing development work locally.
- It forms part of an established boundary tree-line, now placed under considerable pressure arising from the aforementioned development. Crown volume for this tree is low relative to its overall mass- so 1metre should be considered the maximum crown reduction on all aspects (including height) with the exception of property overhang to the west which could tolerate a 2metre reduction.
- It grows at the rear of the property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings but has only limited visibility from publicly accessible land.

Conclusions:

- This tree requires careful management that respects its age and past development pressure.
- If the work is undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality.
- There should 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: -

- 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 January) 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

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

