

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: FP/31/20/T

Location: 5 The Midway, Felpham, PO22 7EZ

Description of works: Remove lower left limb going towards 19 The Grove on the North side and remove lower right limb on south side going over 7 The Midway on 1no. Monterey cypress tree

Reasons given: None provided

Comments on Application:

Monterey cypress / *Cupressus macrocarpa* Height: 15-20m Spread: 5-10m Age class: Late-mature

- Outwardly and from a distance this tree appears to be generally stable, free from obvious structural defect and in fair physiological condition at this time. Scattered small branch dieback symptomatic of *Seiridium* canker, as is typical of this species at such an age.
- Recent pruning work has left the tree with a dozen or more pruning wounds (50-150mm diameter) suggesting large branch and limb removal, presumably with the intention of removing deadwood and reducing garden overhang (no.5 The Midway). This has probably been detrimental to the tree's visual impact and new growth at this late stage in the tree's life will be negligible so crown renewal over that aspect is unlikely.
- Remains a visually interesting and important landmark tree, being highly visible from numerous properties and to users of the public highway (footway and carriageway). As such, it has high public amenity value.

Conclusions:

- This tree requires careful management that respects its age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression.
- The tree work proposed in the application has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.
- The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team