

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 28th May 2026

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper

Reference: FP/52/26/T

Location: 12 Daisy Gardens, Felpham, PO22 8GS

Proposal: Crown reduction to 1no. oak (T1) to leave a height and spread of 11m.

Reason: Excessive crown spread over residential property

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

It was unclear whether T1 is two separate trees or conjoined near ground level, due to dense vegetation, epicormic growth and ivy preventing a clear view of the base. In any event, full height of the impressive canopy is formed upon both stems and for management and preservation of visual amenity should be treated as one feature.

From surrounding areas the tree appears to be in good health. It is large, long-established, and highly visible from the public realm. Is therefore a tree of high amenity value.

Recent development on south and north sides of the tree has inevitably subjected a number of dwellings to its considerable influence, in terms of shading and the seasonal deposition of material. This application seeks to restrict the height and spread of the tree on all aspects. Regular repeat operations would then be necessary throughout its life to mitigate risk of structure failure at height, incurring a permanent reduction of its landscape potential.

A balance needs to be found that respects the age and amenity offer of the tree and ensures reasonable use of garden space for affected residents.

Conclusions:

This is an important tree in the landscape and of an age which demands careful management.

The impact upon neighbouring properties, particularly those to the north of the tree is considerable.

The visual appeal of the tree should be preserved wherever practical and reasonable to do so. In the absence of any evidenced significant structural defect or disease, I suggest a focused reduction in branch length on north and south aspects only would achieve balance of competing objectives. A whole crown reduction is not necessary to improve conditions for affected residents nor justified by the application and supporting documents.

Recommendation:

As it stands, I am unable to support this application. I **would like the applicant invited to agree to an alternative proposal for lesser works (as described below) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay.** Such work would go some way to addressing the applicant's concerns whilst ensuring no detriment to tree health or loss of amenity:

- *Crown lift to provide a maximum of 4metres overhead clearance on all aspects, with pruning wound size no greater than 50mm.*
 - *Reduce crown spread on north and south aspects only, to leave a minimum of 6metres when measured radially from the main stem.*
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If the applicant agrees to the above revision then I would be able to recommend we grant consent, subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

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.

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***

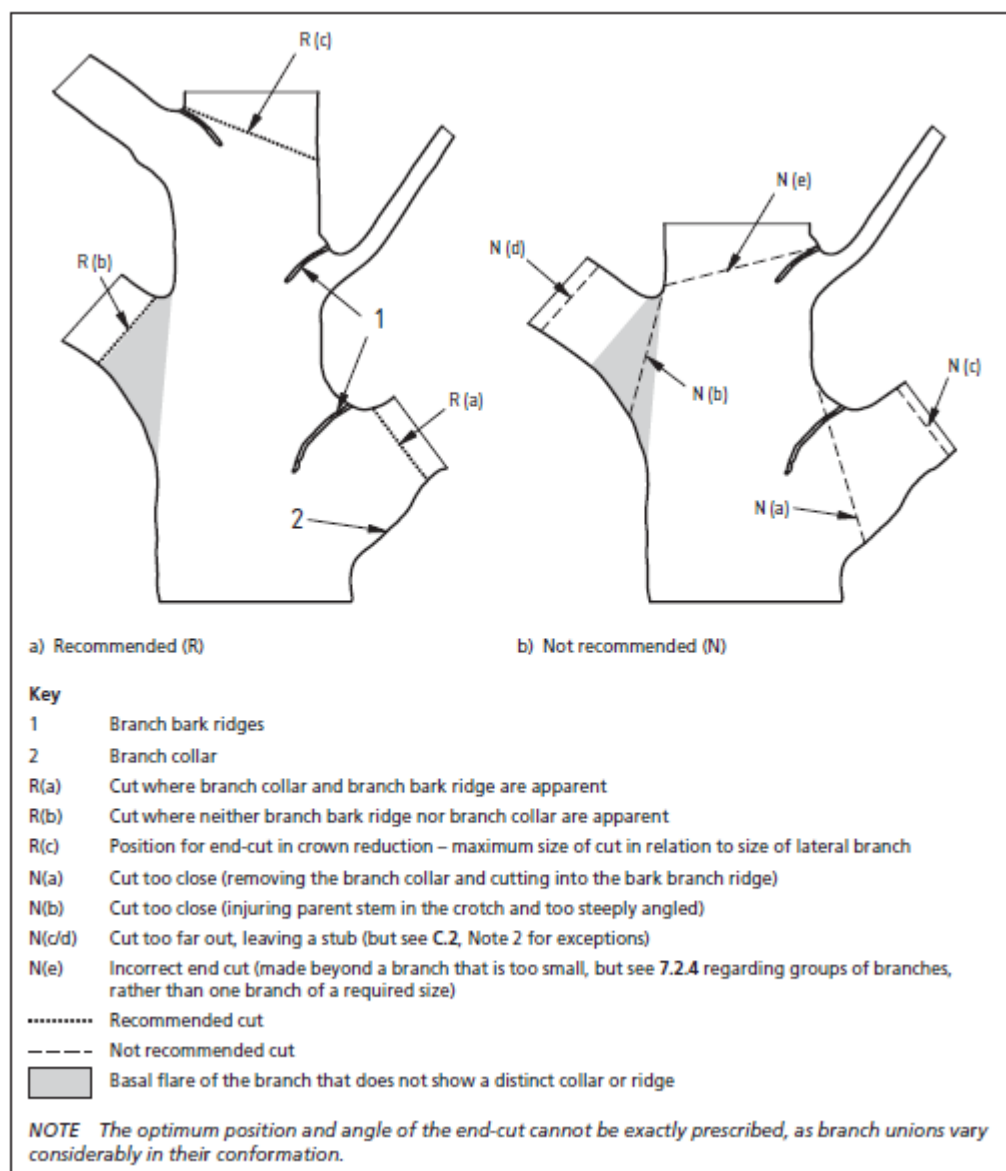
Reasons: To accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice in general.

Informative:

Hard pruning creates numerous and/or large wounds, incurring a physiological stress which may affect long-term health and vitality. The optimum time for pruning deciduous oak trees is late spring to summer (May to August). Winter months when the trees are dormant is the traditional season for such work and certainly much less harmful than undertaking during spring or autumn, which should be avoided.

Mark Warwick
Principal Tree Officer
Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts



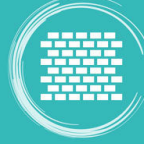
PL- Consultation- Tree Officers response



Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 May 2026 12:42
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: FP/52/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Principal Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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