

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (**REF NO:** FP/72/15/T**LOCATION:** The Green
The Ridgway
Felpham**PROPOSAL:** Various surgery to 1 No. Holm Oak, 1 No. White Poplar & 1 No. Pine tree**SITE AND SURROUNDINGS**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	N/A
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (NET)	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat
TREES	The trees the subject of this application but various trees within and around the site.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	Trees are sited on a green that is open on all sides.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	Open space laid to grass with tree planting.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Private residential estate comprising a mixture of detached properties surrounding the green.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

FP/166/11/T	Fell 1No. White Poplar, Raise Crown to 1No. Evergreen Oak and trim to shape.	Refused 10-11-2011
FP/218/11/T	Crown reduce 1 No Evergreen Holm Oak by 1 metre and remove remaining peripheral growth	ApproveConditionally 16-01-2012
FP/227/14/T	Surgery to various trees	ApproveConditionally 23-02-2015

REPRESENTATIONS**Representations received:**

Felpham Parish Council

No objection

This work is to be carried out as part of a regular maintenance plan. It is recommended that this work be carried on as before by a qualified Tree Surgeon.

1 Letter of Support

The trees need to be reduced in size and broken branches removed to preserve their health and beauty.

Comments on Representations received:

Parish Council and Support comments noted
See Tree Officer's recommendation.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

Tree Officer

T7 Species: Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* Height: 10 meters Average Branch Spread: 8 meters
Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: semi mature

T9 Species: White poplar *Populus alba* Height: 12 meters Average Branch Spread: 5 meters
Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: semi mature

T10 Species: Pine *Pinus* spp Height: 13 meters Average Branch Spread: 8 meters Crown
Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: semi mature

The trees cited in this application are situated in the area Felpham which has a reasonable stocking density of varying species and varying age classes, mostly juvenile, semi mature and mature standards.

For T7, the applicant has applied to thin the crown by 25%. The applicant has also applied to crown lift T7 by 2 meters. It is clear from the site inspection that there is a hazard beam present on a single major limb spanning to the north. The applicants suggested program of works is likely to prevent as systemic failure occurring to the limb with a hazard beam present. This would increase the potential retention span of T7.

For T9, the applicant has applied to reduce by 2.5 meters. The proposed pruning works is clearly designed to reduce the suppression the extremities of the crown of T9 to neighbouring trees.

For T10, the applicant has applied to reduce the crown by 4 meters and to conduct a 2 meter crown lift. It is clear that the lowest limb spanning to the north has also has a hazard beam present. The proposed reduction would reduce the chance of failures occurring, such as the cited lowest limb spanning to the north which has developed a hazard beam.

I would have no objection to the proposed pruning works:

For T7, a crown thin of no more 25% and a crown lift of no more than 2 meters.

For T9, a crown reduction by no more than 2.5 meters.

For T10, the applicant has applied to reduce the crown by no more than 4 meters and to conduct a crown lift of no more than a 2 meters.

Conditions:

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch.

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

Crown Lift

Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Tree Officer's comments noted, subject to conditions.

POLICY CONTEXT

Designation applicable to site:

Built Up Area Boundary
Tree Preservation Order
No Public Sewer

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

[Arun District Local Plan 2003:](#)

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under References ID 36-090-20140306 and ID 36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

The White Poplar Tree and Holm Oak tree are located on the northwest corner of The Green and are covered by Tree Preservation Order BR/5/63 and the Pine tree is sited in the south west corner. All three trees are considered to be of public visual amenity value.

The White Poplar tree was the subject of a previous application FP/227/14/T to remove a single branch. However, further pruning is required to reform its shape.

The application seeks for a crown thin by 25% and a crown lift of 2m to the Holm Oak tree, crown reduction of 2.5m to the White Poplar tree and crown reduction by 4m and a crown lift of 2m to the Pine tree.

The Tree Officer has inspected the trees and has raised no objection to the pruning works for the continued health and vitality of the trees. It is therefore recommended that the application be approved, subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

1 The works hereby approved shall involve:

Holm Oak - Crown thin of no more than 25% and a crown lift of no more than 2m.

White Poplar - Crown reduction of no more than 2.5m.

Pine - Crown reduction of no more than 4m, crown lift of no more than 2m.

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch.

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

Crown Lift

Branches found within the clearance height having diameters greater than 100mm should be shortened and no more than 15% of the leaf bearing growth of that branch should be removed to facilitate the unobstructed free passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

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

2 The work hereby approved shall be undertaken under the supervision of the Local Planning Authority who shall be notified in writing, not less than 7 days before the work commences.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of

amenity.

- 3 The burning of materials obtained by site clearance or from any other source shall not take place within 6 metres of the furthest extent of the canopy of any tree or group of trees to be retained on the site or on land adjoining.

Reason: To protect trees and vegetation from fire damage in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

- 4 **INFORMATIVE:** The applicant should note that under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, with only a few exceptions, it is an offence for any person to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild birds while the nest is in use or being built. Birds nest between March and September and therefore removal of dense bushes, ivy or trees or parts of trees etc. during this period could lead to an offence under the act.

- 5 **INFORMATIVE:** This notice does not give authority to destroy or damage a bat roost or disturb a bat. Bat species are protected under Section 39 of the 1994 Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (as amended), the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) and the 2000 Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It is illegal to damage or destroy any bat roost, whether occupied or not, or disturb or harm a bat. If you are aware that bats roost in a tree(s) for which work is planned, you should take further advice from Natural England (via the Bat Conservation Trust on 0845 1300228) or an ecological consultant before you start. If bats are discovered during the work, you must stop immediately and contact Natural England before continuing.