

Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner
Planning Application Ref: LU/150/19/T
Location: Apple Tree Cottage, Toddington Lane, Littlehampton, BN17 6JX
Description of works: Fell 1no. Robinia & reduce crown of 1no. holm oak by 2m
Reasons Given: T1 - To encourage better form T2 – Health and safety

Comments on Application:

Note: Tree numbers below (eg.T1) are for the sole purpose of interpreting this application (no tree reference numbers were provided) and have no relationship (intended or otherwise) with those referred to elsewhere, such as may be recorded on the original Tree Preservation Order.

T1 False acacia / <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Approx. height: 11m	Average spread: 3m	Age class: Over mature
T2 Holm oak / <i>Quercus ilex</i>	Approx. height: 12m	Average spread: 6m	Age class: Early mature

- T1 - Appears to be in a fair physiological state and of moderate form, having been previously ‘topped’ at 4metres height and with an uneven limb and branch recovery. This is clearly a tree in slow but inexorable decline and having become unsuitable for its location. It is visible from adjacent properties but only with difficulty from publicly accessible land.
- T2 – Appears to be in a fine physiological state and of moderate form, having been suppressed a little by the adjacent established large pine trees. While of some visual interest it is clearly subordinate to the pine trees which are of much greater value. A re-balancing of the crown profile is unlikely to improve the tree’s long-term prospects but would introduce some formality to this part of the garden.

Conclusions:

- There is no reason to object to the proposed tree works on arboricultural grounds.
- There will 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 tree T2 is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid to late-winter period (January to February). The work proposed must only be undertaken during this period.

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 4 Diagrammatic illustration of crown reduction

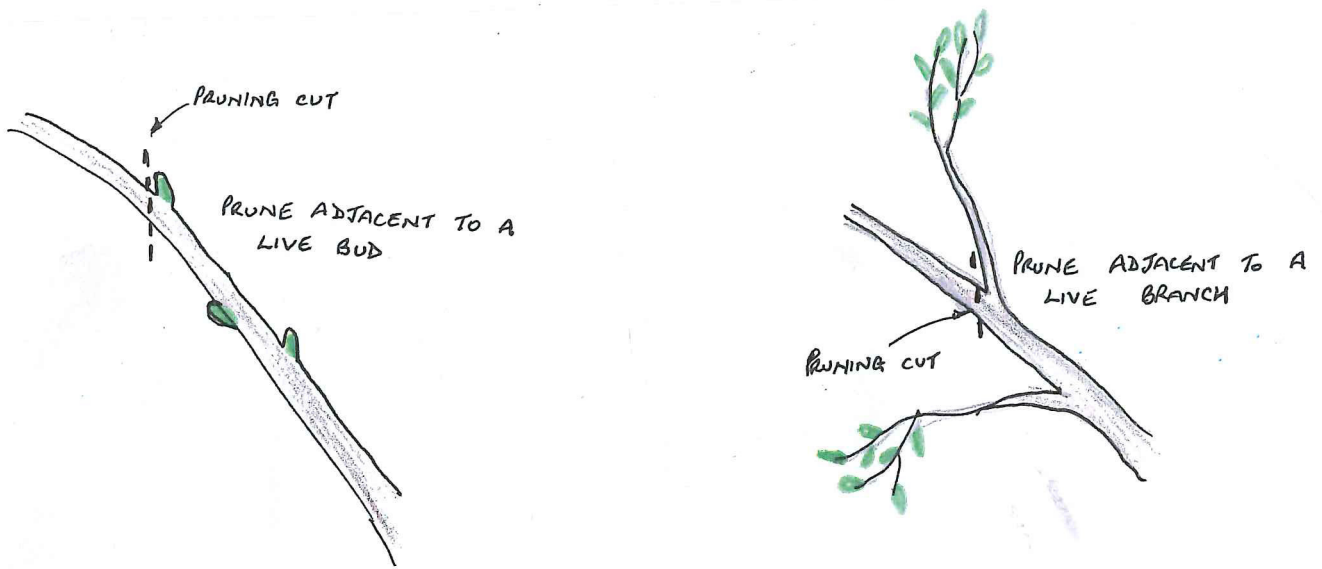
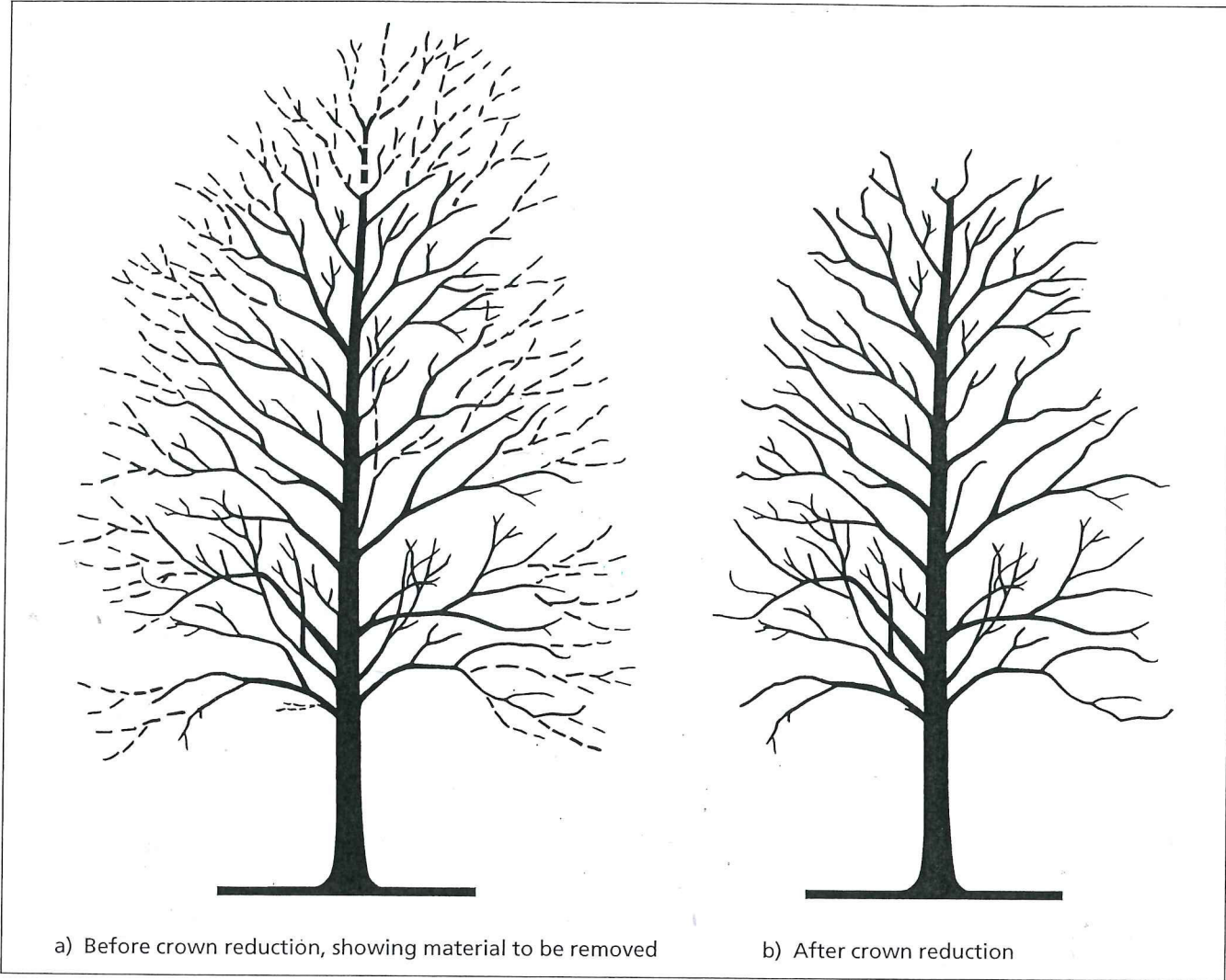


Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

