Arun District Council

Date Inspected: 23rd October 2018

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: **LU/229/18/T**

Location: **24 Trinity Way, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 5SS**

Description of works: **1m Lateral Reduction, 5m Crown Lift & 10% Crown Thin to 1No. Pine**

Reasons Given: Carriageway and building clearance

Comments on Application:

Black pine *Pinus nigra* Height: Approx. 10m Average spread: 5m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state. It grows at the rear of the property but can be seen from many neighbouring dwellings and public highway (road and footway). It is a major constituent of the small amount of high canopy in this locality.
- Despite the historic removal/loss of many branches, it maintains an attractive flat-topped crown profile and is one of two trees of similar age, size and form in the locality that provide an important visual amenity.
- It is a large garden tree but at an adequate distance from the dwelling.
- Crown thinning is rarely an appropriate pruning operation for this type of tree, but the low percentage proposed suggests only small crossing branches and dead/declining material would be removed.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds as it seeks to maintain reasonable enjoyment of the garden with respect to natural tree form and maintain adequate overhead clearance above public highway.
- There will be no notable loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **CONSENT** for this application, subject to the following condition:

  Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- Where whole branches are to be removed and final cuts made close to a limb 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.

  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.***

Advisory:

- I would like to see great care exercised during the crown lifting operation over the public highway. 5metres is a reasonable extent of overhead clearance to permit long-term unobstructed access for high-sided vehicles. To achieve

this, a gradual lessening of weight should be attempted so as to retain as much foliage bearing limbs/branches as possible. Final cuts should be positioned directly above the footway and in compliance with the conditions above.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team