ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL **Date:** 28/10/2014

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd **TO:** Damian Sullivan

PLANNING APPLICATION: LU/308/14/T

ADDRESS: Winterton Lodge Goda Road Littlehampton BN17 6YS

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Crown lift 2 Holm Oak trees to achieve ground clearance of 3.5m & remove south facing smaller stem of 1 No Sweet Chestnut tree

INSPECTION DATE:

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection	☐	No Objection	☐	Split Decision	x
Comment	x	Recommendation	x	Suggested Conditions	x
Tree Replacement	☐	**Dead/Dangerous**	☐	CA & Amenity Value	☐

T1- Species: Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* **Height:** 19 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 12 meters **Crown Condition:** fair **Form:** fair **Age Class:** early mature

T2- Species: Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* **Height:** 23 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 14 meters **Crown Condition:** good **Form:** fair to good **Age Class:** early mature

T3- Species: Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa* **Height:** 9 meters **Average Crown Spread:** 4 meters **Crown Condition:** poor **Form:** fair to poor **Age Class:** early mature

Comments:

- Outlined trees are located in the rear (south east facing garden of winter lodge. The surrounding landscape is mainly made up of smaller/medium sized specimens.

- The applicant has indicated the desire to crown raise **T1/T2** to 3.5 meters. These open grown trees have clearly had similar procedures in the past as the lowest part of the crown is just dipping below the 3.5 meter height. This action would therefore only result on about a meter to a meter and half removal off the lowest part of the crown mass, and is therefore very unlikely to have any effect on the health/longevity/atheistical value of the outlined trees.

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- **T3** is the south east facing stem of maturing Chestnut. The outlined stem has grown with suppression from the main Chestnut tree; also it is beginning to be effected by the northern lateral extremities of **T2.** It is in relatively poor condition, with evidence of some small cavities present on some branches. It should be noted that the stem has no evidence of serious decay, also a much of the dieback in the crown can be attributed with the active suppression.

Recommendation:

- **It would be therefore my recommendation that the crown lift of 3.5 meters should be allowed to take place,** as it is unlikely to have any notable effects on the host trees. Also other action is clearly designed to allow access into this part of the garden area.

- It would also be my recommendation that the **felling of the whole south facing stem (T3) should not be allowed to take** place as there is no evidence of heighted risk either from the site visit and/or provided by the applicant.

- It would be my recommendation that a **height reduction of 4 meters** to a suitable growing point. This action will look to rebalance the form, prevent further suppression from **T2** and also encourage apical dominance to establish. Also the **crown lift of 3.5 meters** to allow access into this area of the garden.

Conditions:

Condition 1: Crown Reduction
The Crown Reduction should not exceed the removal of single branch lengths which are greater than **1m** from the periphery of the original crown diameter. The branch removals should leave healthy substantial leaf bearing side branches. All side branches to be retained should be at least **1/3rd** in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle and should not exceed **100mm** in diameter.

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

Condition 2: 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%.

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Conditions 3: 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.

Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer

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