

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: LU/327/18/T

Location: Land lying to the north of Bluebell Drive, opposite 6 Larkspur Close, Littlehampton

Description of works: Remove branches from two previously reduced limbs, leaving established 'knuckle' & lateral growth intact to 1 No Caucasian Wingnut

Reasons Given: To prevent future failure of weakly attached branches over private property

Comments on Application:

Caucasian wingnut / *Pterocarya fraxinifolia* Height: Approx. 14m Average spread: 6m Age class: Mature

- This tree appears to be outwardly healthy and stable with an attractive upper crown profile.
- It is a dominant tree within a large group retained within the estate and can be seen from several properties and public highway.
- The applicant proposes only to reduce back low growth on the aspect facing residential dwellings, to a point where two limbs have previously been cut and will involve the removal of small diameter branches.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds as it seeks to prevent future failure of branches weakly attached to the main limb framework.
- 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 removal of crown material which has developed since the last operation must be done sympathetically and with respect to established 'knuckles' so as not to extend beyond the point of origin.

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

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team