

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: LU/87/17/T

Location : 46 River Road/43 Pharos Quay, Littlehampton

Description of works: Crown lift to achieve a 6m ground clearance – 2 No Sycamores

Applicants Reasons To lift off building and allow light in under canopy.

Comments On Application:

T1 Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus [T25 on planting plan]* Height = 12m Avge spread = 4m to 5m Age = Young

T2 Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus [T26 on planting plan]* Height = 12m Avge spread = 4m to 5m Age = Young

- These trees are outwardly sound and healthy and visually important in the landscape.
- They are supposed to be a fastigate form of the parent plant but are straight Sycamore which was always going to cause conflict planted this close to habitable dwellings.
- No surprise that they want to crown lift and this is preferable to crown reduction as it gives a more permanent solution where branchwork will not grow back into the space.

Conclusions:

T1 Sycamore/T2 Sycamore

- I have no problem with crown lifting them - but I do take issue with the degree of ground clearance which has been requested.
- As they are only 12m high this would equate to a 50% loss of crown which is contrary to BS3998 recommendations and would also be harmful to their visual appearance.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for the pruning of these trees as requested.

ADVISORY:

- I suggest that the applicant re-submits seeking a 4m crown lifting operation making all final cuts in accordance with BS3998 recommendations.

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist