

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: M/45/20/T

Location: 4 Lavender Close, Middleton-On-Sea, West Sussex, PO22 6SP

Description of works: Reduce lateral spread of 1No. oak tree - T7 to 6.5m overhanging applicant's property

Reasons given: Proximity of branches to dwelling

Comments on Application:

Pedunculate oak / *Quercus robur* Height: 10-15m Spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

- Outwardly and from a distance (restricted view) this tree appears to be in a fine physiological state. A long-established and important tree locally, although sadly confined by built form. Possesses a full and heavy crown with evidence of past pruning to accommodate development.
- It dominates the rear of the property and can be seen from surrounding properties although only in part from publicly accessible land. This proposal seeks to achieve adequate clearance of the applicant's dwelling, resulting in approximately 2metres clearance – a reasonable expectation.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. This is an important tree of significant environmental and some landscape value, which is to be carefully pruned to secure reasonable clearance from residential dwelling and with respect for natural tree form.
- If the work is undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the tree's long-term vitality.

Recommendation:

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

Condition to Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- Part a) 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
- Part b) 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

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

