

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: P/4/19/T

Location: 77 Harbour Road, Pagham, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 4TE

Description of works: Fell 1 No. ash tree and replace with 1 No. standard rowan tree and crown reduction of 1m to 1 No. oak tree

Reasons Given: 1. Excessive shading 2. Restricting access (vehicle)

Comments on Application:

T1 Ash / <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Approx. height: 6m	Average spread: 2m	Age class: Semi-mature
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T2 Pedunculate oak / <i>Quercus robur</i>	Approx. height: 5m	Average spread: 1.5m	Age class: Semi-mature
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- Both trees appear to be in a fine physiological state. Their limb and branch framework has been subject to severe reduction such that their form is significantly compromised. That said, they have responded with uniform growth from reduction points and so when in leaf should present an attractive crown profile.
- They are prominent roadside and so visible from numerous properties and to traffic accessing/exiting the estate.

Conclusions:

- These trees are of a type that were bound to become problematic at their locations, being so close to residential dwellings and of high growth potential that regular containment-pruning was going to be necessary.
- The removal of T1 is unfortunate but on balance justified and will not incur a significant loss of public amenity.
- In respect of T2, which is the superior specimen - if undertaken to a high standard and at the right time there will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of those 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 long-term vitality of tree (**T2**) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the late-spring to summer period (May to August). The work proposed must only be undertaken during this period.

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