

Planning Officer: Lynnyrd Wolfe

Planning Application Ref: P/63/20/T

Location: 18 Boleyn Drive, Pagham, PO21 3LG

Description of works: Reduce height to approx. 8m and crown thin by 20% 2No. Lombardy poplar trees

Reasons given: None given

Comments on Application:

2x Lombardy poplar / *Populus nigra Italica* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 0-5m Age class: Early mature

- Outwardly and from a distance both trees appear to be in a fine physiological state. They have previously been the subject of reduction pruning on a number of occasions, last undertaken c.2017.
- Further reduction pruning will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of these trees, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location. They grow at the rear of the property and can be seen from neighbouring dwellings but are visible only in small part from publicly accessible land.
- The crown thinning element appears unnecessary and unlikely to provide more than a short-term effect, although tolerable if executed correctly.

Conclusions:

- The proposal to reduce its overall height and spread with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendations:

- 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.
- Part c) 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.

- See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of these trees is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during the mid-winter (late-December to early-February) period. The work should only be undertaken during this period.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team