

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: R/149/18/T

Location: 78 North Lane, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN16 3PW

Description of works: Remove basal growth from stem base, Remove epicormic growth from the main stem and around crown-break and 5m Crown lift to western aspect to 1No. horse chestnut tree.

Reasons Given: Low growth obstructing reasonable use of garden

Comments on Application:

Horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* Height: Approx. 16m Average spread: 8m Age class: Mature

- A large tree with an attractive crown profile. It appears to be in a generally fine physiological state and structurally sound.
- It is a prominent feature tree visible from numerous residential properties and the adjacent school. It has some visibility from the public highway and contributes to the high canopy locally.
- The applicant proposes only minor work to remove secondary growth at low-level and localised crown lifting to achieve adequate overhead clearance above a busy ornamental garden.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds as it seeks to maintain reasonable enjoyment of the garden with respect to natural tree form.
- There will be no loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.

Recommendations:

- I recommend we give **CONSENT** for this application subject to the following conditions:

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- (1) 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
- (2) 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.

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

- (3) In respect of the following work items only:
 - 3.1 removal of basal growth from around the stem base
 - 3.2. removal of epicormic growth from the main stem and about the crown-break

These operations are likely to be required regularly throughout the tree's remaining lifespan and would not be detrimental to its ongoing health and vitality. Future applications for the work as described above will not be necessary, subject to the applicant providing adequate notice to this authority and whilst undertaking such work must meet the requirements of the aforementioned condition (1).

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