

From: Mark Warwick
Sent: 02 November 2018 17:09
To: Charlotte Easton
Cc: Planning.Responses
Subject: R/166/18/T

Charlotte

Please find attached my comments/observations for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

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Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: R/166/18/T

Location: Cranbourne House, 7 The Oaks, Rustington BN16 2UP

Description of works: Reduce radial spread by 1m & height by 1m to 1 No. Ilex.

Reasons Given: Significant growth since last crown reduction

Comments on Application:

Holm oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Height: Approx. 9m	Average spread: 4m	Age class: Mature
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CONDITION / FORM

- Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state, having responded with vigour to substantial past pruning.
- It is discreetly located within the expansive gardens of the property, although by virtue of its size and evergreen foliage provides visual amenity when viewed from neighbouring property and far end of the close.
- Close inspection from within the garden reveals the crown to be supported on a cluster of eight large stems. These have been severely truncated at around 7-8m ht.
- There are multiple established and ongoing decay events, evidenced by the proliferation of large perennial fungal brackets (*Ganoderma* sp.). This is not unusual for a holm oak of this form and age but worthy of further investigation.
- It has become the subject of regular crown reduction resulting in a dense, compact crown.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is necessary to mitigate risk of structural failure and so justified on arboricultural grounds.
- This tree requires careful management that respects its age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression.
- 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.
- 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.

Recommendations:

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

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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 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.*

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

