

Planning Officer: Miss Z Toppin

Planning Application Ref: R/20/21/T

Location: St Peters & St Pauls Church, 77 The Street, Rustington, BN16 5NL

Description of works: To crown lift 1no. yew tree (*Taxus baccata*) to 2.5m above ground level. To crown lift 1no.lime (*Tilia*) tree to 3m above ground level. To remove all dead wood from 1no. strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*)

Reasons given: None provided

Comments on Application:

Note: Tree numbers below (eg.T1) are for the sole purpose of interpreting this application (no tree reference numbers were provided) and have no relationship (intended or otherwise) with those referred to elsewhere, such as may be recorded on the original Tree Preservation Order.

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|--|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| T1 Yew / <i>Taxus baccata</i> | Height: 5-10m | Radial spread: 5-10m | Age class: Mature |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Outwardly appears to be in a fine physiological state. Large low limbs/branches have been allowed to develop; whilst adding character to the tree those have begun to obstruct access to graves/headstones and encroach low over paths. A prominent tree of high amenity value. | | | |
| T2 Bay laurel / <i>Laurus nobilis</i> | Height: 5-10m | Radial spread: 0-5m | Age class: Mature |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No strawberry tree found at the marked location, although this is similar in appearance and the most likely candidate for the work proposal. It is multi-stemmed with asymmetric form. No obvious deadwood although a twin-stemmed, early mature beech (dormant) grows from within the bay stem cluster, so care needed to ensure it is left untouched.- The removal of dead branches is an exception and does not require consent from the local planning authority. | | | |
| T3 Lime / <i>Tilia sp.</i> | Height: 15-20m | Radial spread: 5-10m | Age class: Mature |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Outwardly appears to be in a fair physiological state and with good form. A prominent tree of high amenity value. | | | |

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds. If undertaken to a good standard and at the right time; then it is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the trees long-term vitality and visual amenity.
- T1 - This tree requires careful management that respects its age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression. The pruning should be carried out by a skilled practitioner to ensure heavy branches are removed in a controlled manner and final cuts (pruning wounds) are correctly positioned.

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

Advisory:

- The long-term vitality of tree (**T1 yew**) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the late summer or late winter periods (late January/February or late July/August). The work proposed should only be undertaken during those periods.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

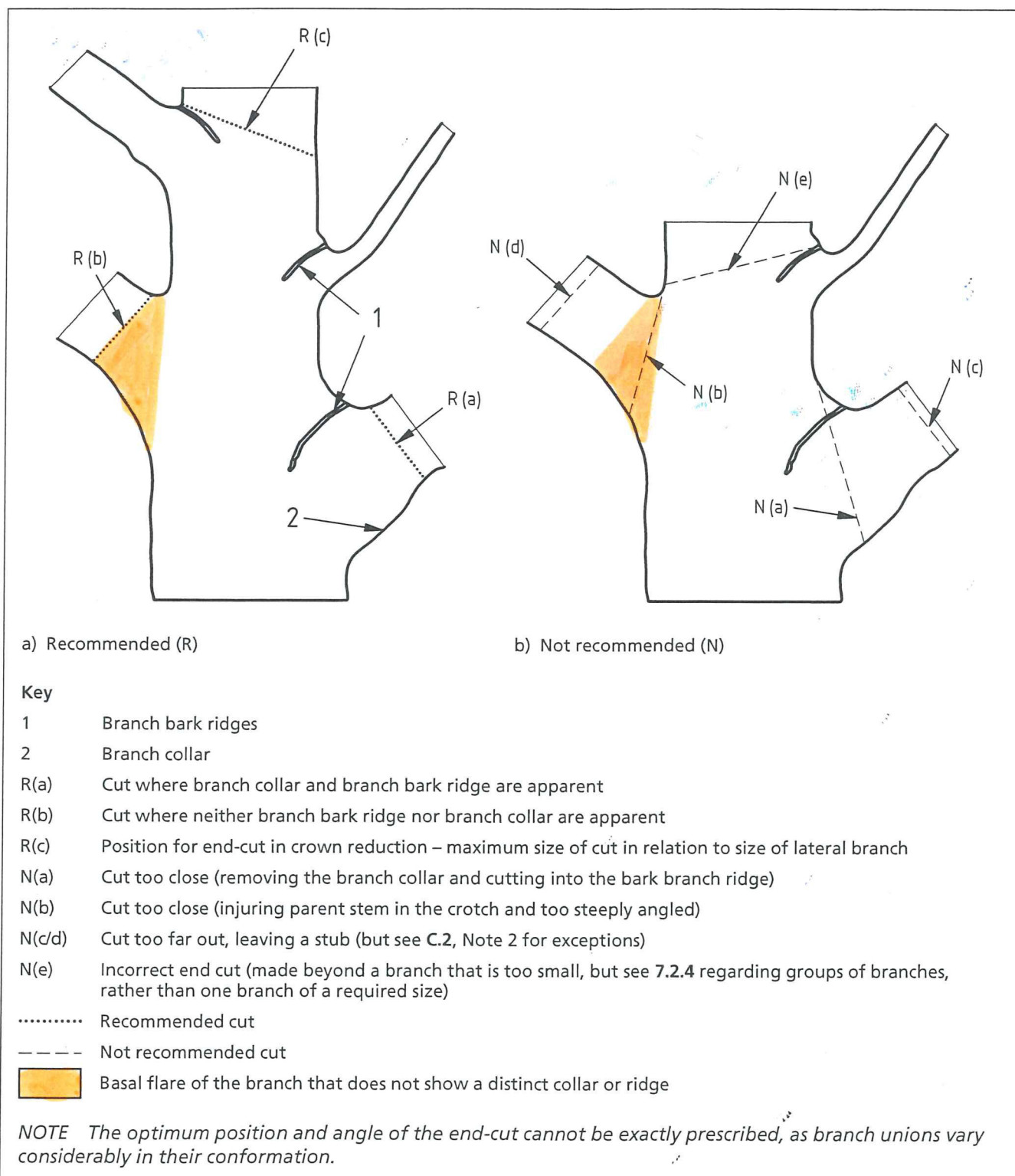


Figure 3 Crown lifting

