

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: R/214/17/T

Location: 3 Chestnut Cottages, 37 The Street, Rustington

Description of works: Reduce 3 No Horse Chestnuts by 1.5m overall and crown thin by 10%

Applicants Reasons: Because of excessive shading and to maintain at a reasonable height and spread

Comments On Application:

3 x Horse Chestnuts *Aesculus hippocastanum* Height = 15m Avge spread = 5m Age = Mature

- Maturing trees that are potentially large forest type specimens abut have been heavily lopped and topped in the past to control same with the result that they have thrown out a mass of epicormic shoots from each pruning wound.
- All three appear sound and healthy and make a positive impact in the landscape.
- Growing beside a footpath and above a road as well as a primary access to the buildings they are in a location where public safety is an issue.

Conclusions:

- The crown reduction exercise will be adequate to control these trees growth habit and there will be nothing left to thin so I see no point in undertaking this work.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the overall crown reduction of 1.5m provided that final cuts are made no lower than the previous pruning points and no cuts larger than 75mm in diameter are made.
- I recommend **REFUSAL** for the thinning of these trees by 10% as this is pointless and unnecessary.

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.
- Final cuts are to be made no lower than the previous pruning points and no cuts larger than 75mm in diameter are to be made.

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.*



Consultant Arboriculturist