

Planning Officer: Amber Willard

Planning Application Ref: R/220/17/T

Location : Thornton Court Guildford Road, Rustington

Description of works: Various surgery to 4 No Lime trees.

Applicants Reasons To reduce risk of damage to building and discourage access by Squirrels

Comments On Application:

Common Limes *Tilia x europaea* Height: 25m AvgeSprd: 6m Age: Mature

- Situated in the small rear garden of this property along the railway line boundary.
- There are actually 5 trees in this line and they combine crowns to effectively present as one green screen.
- All are sound and healthy and contribute significantly to the amenity of the area.
- Some branches overhang the roof line and others are not far short of the building line.
- The line of trees is positioned 7m back from the building line.

Conclusions:

- I sympathise with the desire to see the growth potential of these trees controlled.
- Cutting them all back to establish a 3m clearance from the building line is acceptable although this will not mean 3m off each branch as they all vary in radial spread so it will be between 1m & 3m.
- The removal of all epicormic growth from the trunks is also acceptable.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the following works :-
 1. Reduce the lateral spread of the Limes in one direction ONLY i.e. to the south side (towards the building line) - by between 1m to 4m depending on the existing branch spread - to establish an even 3m clearance from the building line on completion of works.
 2. Remove all epicormic growth from the trunks.

Conditions To Be Applied to All Approved Works: -

- 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
- 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.*

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist