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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 December 2019 13:50
To: Finlay Gardner <Finlay.Gardner@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: R/235/19/T

Finlay

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark

Mark Warwick | Tree Officer, Greenspace, Arun District Council | Location: Bognor Regis Town Hall, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, West
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Planning Officer: Mr F Gardner

Planning Application Ref: R/235/19/T

Location: Various locations Sea Estate Rustington

Description of works: Various works to 1no. macrocarpa tree, 1no. Monterey pine tree and 2no. Corsican pine trees

Reasons given: General maintenance

Comments on Application:

1B Monterey cypress / <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>	Height: 15-20m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
2B Corsican pine / <i>Pinus nigra</i>	Height: 10-15m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
3B Corsican pine / <i>Pinus nigra</i>	Height: 15-20m	Spread: 10-15m	Age class: Mature
4B Monterey pine / <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Height: 10-15m	Spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature

- **1B** – This is a large, late-mature example of its type, appearing to be free from obvious structural defect and in fair physiological condition with a relatively unmodified and attractive crown profile.
- The proposal to reduce both the height and lateral spread on all aspects (the correct interpretation of *crown reduction*) potentially by 3metres respectively would involve the removal of approximately two-thirds of the tree's foliar mass. This does not comply with 'British Standard (BS3998:2010) Tree work – Recommendations' and would be likely to result in harm to the health and vitality of the tree with large pruning wounds being formed as well as undermining its visual amenity value and impact in the landscape.
- **2B** – This is a mature example of its type, appearing to be free from obvious structural defect and in fair physiological condition with a relatively unmodified and attractive crown profile.
- It is a tree of character and been the subject of low branch removal to accommodate development. As such, overhead clearance of 4-5metres on all aspects is perfectly adequate for its location and intended land use beneath. Shoot extension is only moderate and I suspect it has for some time been experiencing a degree of physiological stress, such that any intervention pruning of live material should only occur where essential to address an immediate risk of harm to persons or property.
- **3B** - This is a large, mature example of its type, appearing to be free from obvious structural defect and in fine physiological condition with a relatively unmodified and attractive crown profile.
- The precise extent of limb/branch shortening has not been specified. Nonetheless, overhead and building clearance on all aspects is perfectly adequate for its location and intended land use beneath.
- **4B** - This is an exposed tree with correspondingly compact yet attractive crown profile. It is mature and outwardly appears to be free from obvious structural defect and in fine physiological condition.
- The proposed removal of so many limbs and branches would carry a high risk of exposing the crown interior to potentially damaging winds that could rapidly diminish its visual amenity and landscape value.

Conclusions:

- These trees require careful management that adequately respect their age and vulnerability to environmental changes and disease progression. They are all important and prominent constituents of an established population of trees which help define the character of the estate/area and so represent a significant public amenity.

- Although the work is well-intentioned, I find the quantity of foliage bearing branches proposed for removal to be excessive and likely to result in detriment to those tree's ongoing health, vitality and visual amenity.
- There is no obvious arboricultural justification for the work proposed. While I can sympathise with concern for the size of such large and aged trees in proximity to residential property, the associated inherent risk can be adequately mitigated with a regular programme of inspection by an arboriculturalist - entirely justifiable for such a large population of high amenity value trees many of which are in advanced stage of maturity.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **REFUSAL** for this application.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team