

Planning Officer: Charlotte Easton

Planning Application Ref: R/26/19/T

Location: Glenhurst, Woodlands Avenue, Rustington, BN16 3ER

Description of works: Reduce new growth by 2m and remove dead wood to 1 No. sugar maple tree.
Crown reduction by 1m on northern side 1 No. cedar tree

Reasons Given: Excessive shading

Comments on Application:

T1 Silver maple / *Acer saccharinum* Approx. height: 11m Average spread: 4m Age class: Early mature

T2 Blue, Atlas cedar / *Cedrus atlantica Glauca* Approx. height: 10m Average spread: 4m Age class: Early mature

- T1 is in close proximity to the front elevation of the above dwelling and neighbouring property. It appears outwardly to be in a fair physiological state although it has poor form as a consequence of irregular and severe lopping such that it's amenity value has been greatly diminished. It is clearly visible from the public highway (carriageway and footway).
- T2 is in close proximity to the rear elevation of the above dwelling and has also been the subject of a rather poorly executed crown reduction, with several central leading scaffold limbs devoid of foliage and in decline. It is easily visible from surrounding residential property but only with difficulty from publicly accessible land.
- It was inevitable that these two trees would come under significant 'pressure to prune' with a subsequent decline in their amenity value following construction of the above dwelling - despite having been successfully retained.

Conclusions:

- The proposal to reduce the overall height and spread of T1 with a view to restricting its growth is justified and consistent with previous works approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- The proposal to prune back branches on the north aspect of T2 as described is necessary to preserve adequate clearance from the building.
- There will be no significant loss of public amenity on completion of the proposed works.

Recommendations:

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

Conditions To Be Applied to Approved Work: -

- 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.
- 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.
- The long-term vitality of tree (T1) is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (mid-December to mid-February) periods. The work proposed must only be undertaken during these periods.

- See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

