

Planning Officer: Richard Sherman

Planning Application Ref: R/95/21/T

Location: Thurlstone House, 80 Old Manor Road, Rustington, BN16 3PX

Description of works: Fell 1no. maple tree (T3). Crown reduction 2no. maple trees (T1 & T2) of approx. 1.5m - 2m back to previous points

Reasons given: 1. Health and safety 2. To prevent damage to overhead cables (BT)

Comments on Application:

T1 Norway maple cv / *Acer platanoides Drummondii*

T2 & T3 Norway maple cv / *Acer platanoides* Crimson King/*Nigra*

- All trees are semi-mature and within height range 5-10metres with radial crown spread of 0-5metres. Outwardly and from distance (roadside), T1 and T2 appear to be in a fair physiological state (and assumed to be so in the absence of any information/evidence provided to the contrary). T3 is clearly dead. They have all been the subject of crown reduction pruning in recent times (c2018?).
- Individually T1 and T2 possess poor/moderate form although as a group they make a positive contribution to the street scene. The removal of T3 ought to improve growth prospects for T1 and T2.
- I have been unable to obtain documents associated with TPO/R/2/90, the only Order which might capture the above trees. They are in a Conservation Area.
- Repeat operations such as now being asked for by the applicant will be necessary throughout the remaining lifespan of T1 and T2, to achieve a reasonable degree of structural integrity appropriate for their location.

Conclusions:

- The work proposed is justified on arboricultural grounds.
- While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

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.
- Part c) 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.

Reasons: In the interests of the tree's 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 these trees is best respected when significant pruning work such as proposed, is undertaken during either the summer (June to August) or mid-winter (late-December to early-February) periods. The work should only be undertaken during these periods.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

