

Susan Haley

From: Mark Warwick
Sent: 22 December 2025 11:43
To: Planning.Responses
Cc: Susan Haley
Subject: WA/96/25/T
Attachments: WA.96.25.T.pdf; BS3998.2010.Figure 2.Final cuts.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Green category

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 17th December 2025

Case Officer: Susan Haley

Reference: WA/96/25/T

Location: 16 Walberton Park, The Street, Walberton, BN18 0PJ

Proposal: Crown reduction to 18no. lime trees to leave: (T1) height of 16.5m, spread of 6.5m (N), 7m (E), 2m (S), 3m (W), (T2) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N), 7m (E), 4m (S), 3m (W), (T3) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N), 6m (E), 4m (S), 3m (W), (T4) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N,S), 7m (E), 4m (W), (T5) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N, W), 6m (E, S), (T6) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N, W), 6m (E, S), (T8) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N), 4m (E), 3m (S, W), (T9) height of 16.5m, spread of 6m (N,E,S,W). (T10) height of 16.5m, spread of 4m (N), 6m (E,S), 7.5m (W). (T11, T12) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N, E, S), 7m (W). (T13) height of 16.5m, spread of 6m (N), 4m (E), 5m (S), 7m (W). (T14) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N), 4m (E, S), 8.5m (W). (T15) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N, S), 4m (E), 7.5m (W). (T16) height of 16.5m, spread of 5m (N, S), 4m (E), 7m (W). (T17) height of 16.5m, spread of 6m (N, S), 4m (E), 7.5m (W). (T18) height of 16.5m, spread of 8m (N, W), 5m (E), 6m (S). (T19) height of 16.5m, spread of 6.5m (N), 5m (E), 6m (S), 7.5m (W). Crown reduction to 1 No. Lime tree (T7) to leave a height of 16.5m, spread of 6m (N, S), 8m (E), 4m (W) and crown lift to 7m from ground level. Crown reduction to 1 No. Lime tree (T20) to leave a height of 20m, spread of 6m (N) 7m (E,W,S) and crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. These trees are in the Walberton Village Conservation Area.

Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

T1-T20 Lime / <i>Tilia</i> sp.	Height: 20-30m	Radial spread: 2-10m	Age class: Mature
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The application seeks to balance crown spread in a formal avenue setting, whilst simultaneously reducing the height of all trees by approximately one third. The latter operation will have an impact on tree health and landscape.

Low level epicormic growth is to be removed, a standard practice which provides several benefits and is of limited consequence for tree health and amenity.

From a distance the trees appear to be in a fair physiological state. They are slender, tall and evenly spaced; crown retrenchment affects the majority with deadwood content symptomatic of that.

Conclusions:

This avenue of trees is an interesting and unusual feature in the landscape and of an age which demands careful management. It is probable that the group has reached or is near to its environmental potential. Above average deadwood content can be dealt with at any time, with no harmful effect imposed upon the trees.

The informed and minor reduction of lateral spread on specific aspects as proposed, is reasonable and unlikely to cause significant harm to any tree.

Height reduction of approximately of one third represents a significant and potentially harmful loss of crown material, with inevitable focus on main stem truncation, and has not been justified on arboricultural grounds.

Recommendation:

As it stands, I am unable to support this application. I **would like the applicant invited to agree to a revised proposal for lesser works (by removing all reference to height reduction pruning, so that the existing height of live material for each tree remains) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay.** Such work would presumably go some way to addressing the applicant's concerns whilst ensuring no undue detriment to tree health or loss of amenity

If the applicant agrees to the above revision then I would be able to recommend we grant consent, subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

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.

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

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

