ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL **Date:** 12/03/2015

ADC PARKS & GREENSPACE ARBORICULTURE

FROM: Dafydd Lloyd **TO:** David Eastern

PLANNING APPLICATION: Y/13/15/T

ADDRESS: Dukes Meadow Hoe Lane Flansham PO22 8NT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Fell 1 No. Horse Chestnut tree.

INSPECTION DATE: 11/03/2015

RECOMMENDATION:

Objection		No Objection	x	Split Decision	
Comment	x	Recommendation	x	Suggested Conditions	x
Tree Replacement	x	**Dead/Dangerous**		CA & Amenity Value	

T1 Species: Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum 'blanco'* **Height:** 14 meters **Average Branch Spread:** 6 meters **Crown Condition:** poor **Form:** fair **Age Class:** mature

Comments:

- **T1** lies in the area of Flansham, which is a high amenity landscape with young, semi mature, mature, and over mature trees specimens present of varying species.

- The tree outlined in this application is located in the rear garden of 'Dukes Meadow'. The northern flank of this tree spans a private lane, and the other extremities of this tree span over a garage and the garden of the owner.

- The application has provided photographic evidence of a fruiting body Honey Fungus *Armillaria mellea*, spouting from a cavity at 2 meters height in the basal area (this was not present at the time of my visit, however from the pictures submitted I am happy this bracket was on the tree in question). The size of this bracket and the state of the heartwood would indicate a high level of degradation present. The applicant has also indicated that **T1** has bacterium infection of horse chestnut *(Pseudomonas syringae pv. Aesculi)* and leaf minor (*Cameraria ohridella)*. These afflictions are common place on horse chestnuts, and would have added to the stress experienced by **T1**, which in turn is the likely cause of Honey fungus becoming established.

- From the site inspection, it is also clear that the primary/secondary scaffolds have included bark, and some splits beginning to emerge. It is also apparent this tree has had previous reduction – the wounding left by this reduction has evidence of degradation. Also this individual has a dynamic mass of less than 30% - this is another indicator of a continuation of degradation.

- All these factors would indicate a low retention span for **T1**, with limb/systemic basal area failure/s becoming more likely.

Recommendation:

- Due to the fore mentioned factors, **I would have no objection to the felling** of **T1**.

- As this tree has an active TPO order, there will be a requirement to replant with a suitable replacement. I have spoken to the owner of **T1**, and we have agreed to an English Oak (*Quercus robur)* as a suitable replacement. I would like to add the condition that this replacement should be planted within 10 meters of where **T1** was located.

Dafydd Lloyd
Arun District Council
Tree Officer