

Planning Officer: Zac Denton

Planning Application Ref: Y/69/17/T

Location : Field House, Yapton Lane, Walberton

Description of works: Fell 2 No Sycamores & reduce height of 7 No Poplars to previous pollarding points at 3m agl

Applicants Reasons To make safe in view of road and cables

Comments On Application:

Hybrid Poplar *Populus euroamericana* Height = 16m Avge spread = 4m Age = Early Mature

- This is a linear belt of trees along the front boundary adjacent to the main road.
- There are cables at around 4m agl that run across the front of the property.
- These trees were very heavily topped out at 3m agl in the past but have been allowed to grow out to 16m.
- At either end of the line of Poplars there are young self sown Sycamores.

Conclusions:

- I have no problem with them taking out the two Sycamores as they are self sown and have very limited amenity value and being fast growers will at some point become a constant issue with the power cables.
- I agree that the Poplars do need to be reduced but note that the cable runs freely to the east side of the trunks and branches have been pruned clear of same so this is not an issue that requires such a drastic reduction.
- The degree of pruning requested to take them down from 16m in height to just 3m in height will remove all live growth and just leave unsightly trunks – thus removing all amenity value in one operation.
- I would advise that with no experts report specifying decay in the old pruning points commencing a program of gradual reduction down to a more manageable size is preferable to taking 13m of tree out in one operation.

Recommendations:

- I recommend **APPROVAL** for the felling of the two Sycamores as described and plotted on the plans submitted with the application.
- I recommend **REFUSAL** for the reduction of the Poplars down to 3m above ground.

ADVISORY:

I advise that the applicants re-submit seeking the following works:-

7x Poplars

1. Reduce down to a height of 10m from ground level (i.e. remove 6m off the tops)

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist