

Application Number: BH2010/01426 **Ward:** Withdean
Address: 1 Varndean Holt
Proposal: To fell 1 x Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) covered by Tree Preservation Order (No 16) 1999.
Officer: Di Morgan, tel. 01273 292929
Date Received: 13 May 2010
Applicant: Connick Tree Care

1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider the above application.

2 Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee has taken into consideration and agrees with the reasons for the recommendation set out in paragraph 7 of this report and resolves to **refuse** consent.

3 Description of the Application Site

3.1 The tree the subject of this report is situated in the front garden of 1 Varndean Holt. There are 2 other trees in the front garden covered by this Tree Preservation Order.

3.2 The tree is approximately 6 metres from the property and 5 metres from the road.

4 Proposal

4.1 The applicant wishes to fell this tree as it is felt it is a poor specimen, with habit heavily compromised by previous surgery works. The applicant would be happy to replant with more suitable size of tree.

5 Considerations

5.1 The tree the subject of this application is approximately 13 – 15 metres high. It becomes twin stemmed at 1 metre from ground level. The crown spread is approximately 6 metres to the south-west with little crown to the north east.

5.2 The tree has been poorly pollarded in the past and has reacted badly to this harsh pruning.

5.3 Just below the area where the tree divides into two, there may be evidence of fibre-buckling, however, there is exceptional reactionary wood in this area indicating the tree may be coping with any structural defects.

5.4 This tree has high public amenity value, being highly visible from the nearby road.

6 Relevant Planning History

6.1 BH2005/02006 gave permission for one diseased Sycamore to be felled in the front garden of 1 Varndean Holt.

7 Conclusion

7.1 The tree is in the front garden and therefore is highly visible to the general public.

7.2 The tree has been poorly pruned in the past, however, a sound management regime by a professional tree surgeon would benefit this specimen.

7.3 Reducing the tree as well as crown lifting the lower branches would alleviate any problems regarding shade or lack of light. Pruning would also take some of the weight out of the tree, thus relieving any pressure on the possible fibre buckling and sufficiently reducing the risk of the tree failing.

BH2010/01426: 1 Varndean Holt



The tree the subject of this application.

Text1



BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (TREE PRESERVATION) (No 16) ORDER 1999

APP. No. BH2010/01422 & BH2010/01426

ADDRESS:
1 Varndean Holt

J. Rowlands



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Scale 1:1000

J. Rowlands
Director of Environment