

Application Number: BH2008/01725 **Ward:** Woodingdean
Address: Woodingdean Primary School, Warren Road
Proposal: To fell 1 x Prunus spp, covered by Tree Preservation Order (No. 21) 1974 (Area Order).
Officer: Di Morgan, tel. 01273 292186
Date Received: 7 March 2008
Applicant: R W Green Ltd, Lewes

1 Introduction

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

2 Recommendation

2.1 That the Sub-Committee has taken into consideration and agrees with the reasons for the recommendation set out in paragraph 7 of this report and resolves to grant consent subject to the following conditions:

- The felling shall be carried out within two years under the supervision and to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.
- The said existing tree shall be replaced by a tree of a size and species and in a position to be agreed by the Local Planning Authority.
- The replacement tree shall be planted during the period November to March next, following the felling of the existing tree, and such planting shall be in all respects to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.
- If, within a period of two years from the date of the planting, the tree (or any other tree planted in replacement for it) is removed, uprooted or destroyed or dies, another tree of the same size and species shall be planted at the same place, or in accordance with any variation for which the Local Planning Authority gives its written consent.

3 Description of the Application Site

3.1 Woodingdean Primary School is situated on Warren Road and all trees within its grounds are covered by an Area Order made in 1974. There are many trees on site, and this specimen is right on the boundary and overhanging the Youth Centre on Warren Road. Directly beneath the canopy of the tree is a fence that consists of railing. The ends of the railing have blunt ends.

4 Proposal

- 4.1 The applicant wishes to fell this specimen to the ground as children are climbing the tree and exiting the school over the fence.

5 Relevant Planning History

- 5.1 No relevant history.

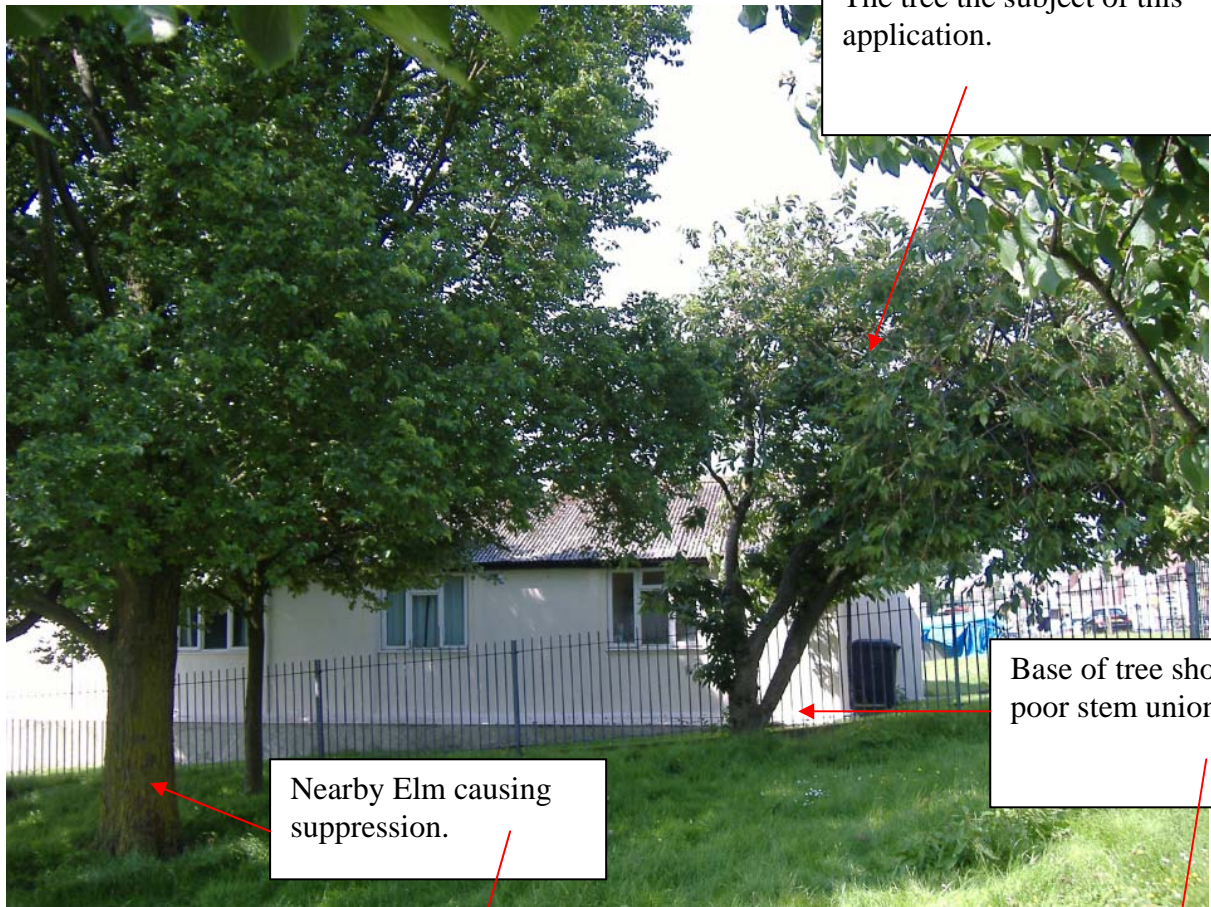
6 Considerations

- 6.1 This Prunus is approximately 6-7 metres in height and splits into three stems at .5 metre from ground. The crown spread is approximately 7 metres, however, the tree has been suppressed by a nearby Elm, causing the tree to grow out at an angle. The tree is therefore of poor form and leans out over the boundary fence of the school to escape from the Elm.
- 6.2 The tree has poor stem unions at .5 metre from base, however, the risk of these failing could be reduced to a satisfactory level by pruning the tree.
- 6.3 The tree is right on the boundary of the school and is used by children to climb and exit the school over the railings.
- 6.4 There are many trees on the site and several in the vicinity of this specimen.
- 6.4 No loss or damage is likely to occur if the application is refused, however, the risk of a child falling on the railings and sustaining a serious injury must be a consideration.

7 Conclusion

- 7.1 The tree the subject of this application is of particularly poor form.
- 7.2 The tree is surrounded by several other trees, some of larger stature.
- 7.3 The railings could be rerouted to exclude the tree from the school grounds, however, this would be an expensive exercise to save a tree that has little amenity value.
- 7.4 The impact of its removal would be negligible.

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The tree the subject of this application.

Base of tree showing poor stem unions.

Nearby Elm causing suppression.

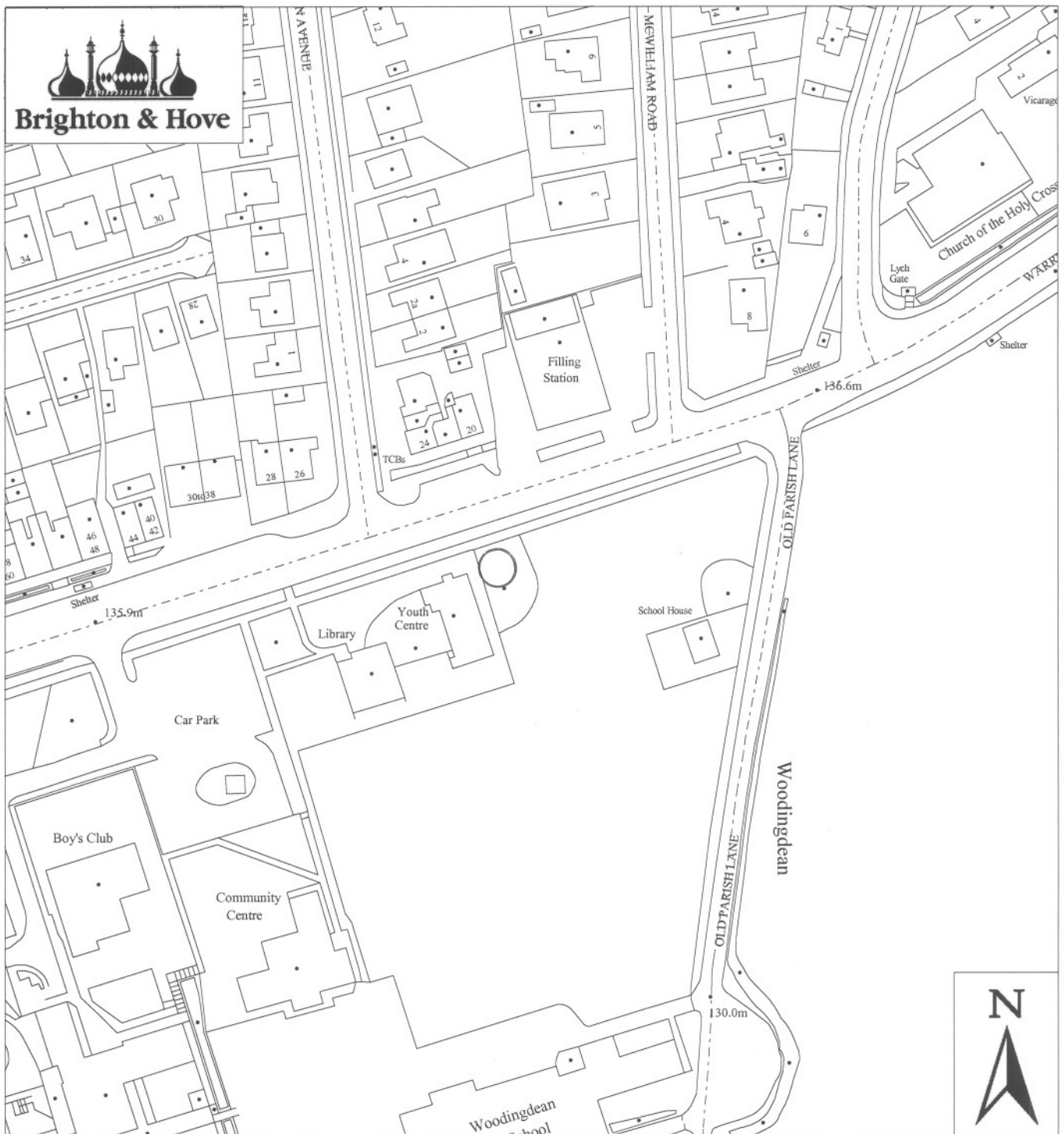


Poorly formed tree leaning over fence due to suppression by neighbouring Elm.





Brighton & Hove



BRIGHTON & HOVE COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (TREE PRESERVATION) (No 21) ORDER 1974

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ADDRESS Woodingdean Primary School
Warren Road.

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