Arun Tree Company Ltd

arboricultural contractors

[redacted]

Bob Falloon
4, Swallows Lane
Dialpost
RH13 8NL

10th June 2025

Report supporting recommended Tree Pruning on your Mighty English Oak in your front garden.

Dear Bob

Thank you for getting me over to take a look at this magnificent tree.

Following the resent limb failure/collapse over Swallows lane (which closed the Road until dealt with). I appreciate your concerns in relation to the general safety of this very large tree.

I refer to this Oak as T1 - Having visually inspected the trees entire canopy, main trunk and ground condition around this tree, I report the following and provide recommendations.

The ground around the base of this tree looks to be undisturbed for some time. The tree's buttress roots are in good health with no visual signs of decay or fungal infection. The last disturbance in this area would have been when the out building (Garage/office) was built. The tree's main trunk and the unions where the major canopy supporting limbs break away from, is also in good health with no visual structural issues. On the west side where the limb recently collapsed there are no remaining major load bearing limbs which concern me. Over the driveway, there is one low spreading limb which has a visual fracture in it. The majority of major load bearing limbs which spread out to an impressive 14 meters are towards your property and over the garage/office. The canopy to the north looks to be in good health and dose not concern me. It also poses little risk due to its aspect.

Works recommended to T1 - Crown lift the canopy over Swallows Lane to a height of 5.3 meters. Reduce the crown spread on the fractured Limb over the drive on the South aspect by approximately 5 meters leaving it at a final crown spread of around 8 meters. Reduce the crown spread on two of the major load bearing limbs by approximately 6 to 7 meters. One grows out over the garage/office and one grows out towards the house and partly over the garage. This will leave these limbs crown spread at around 7 to 8 meters. Where crown width has been brought back in, I also recommend the branches within the vicinity of this pruning works are thinned out by approximately 15 to 20%. This is to enable them to cope with the localised limb movement due to the changed dynamics (new openings in the side canopy, creating more branch movement in winds). Finally, it is advisable to remove any major dead wood within the west, south and east canopy areas.

With reference to the recently collapsed limb, it is difficult to determine the reason for this limb failure, as the debris has been removed. It is possible that there was an unseen defect within this limb. Unexplained occurrences like this can be put down as summer branch drop, which can occur in major load bearing limbs, like the ones I have identified.

Carrying out the above works will also provide the opportunity to perform a closer inspection of this tree's upper canopy. I do not feel there is any need to crow reduce this tree, due to the undisturbed ground conditions and good buttress/trunk conditions.

If I can be of further help please do get in touch.

Yours sincere[redacted]

John Bentley