**From:** Planning@horsham.gov.uk <Planning@horsham.gov.uk>
**Sent:** 05 January 2025 14:44:13 UTC+00:00
**To:** "Planning" <planning@horsham.gov.uk>
**Subject:** Comments for Planning Application DC/24/1908
**Categories:** Comments Received

# Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 05/01/2025 2:44 PM.

## Application Summary

| | |
|---|---|
| Address: | The Jays Mead Lane Storrington West Sussex RH20 3PJ |
| Proposal: | Surgery to 1x Oak. |
| Case Officer: | Andrew Bush |

Click for further information

## Customer Details

| | |
|---|---|
| Address: | Mulberry House 2 Silver Birches Storrington, Pulborough |

## Comments Details

| | |
|---|---|
| Commenter Type: | Neighbour |
| Stance: | Customer objects to the Planning Application |
| Reasons for comment: | - Trees and Landscaping |
| Comments: | I believe this application as written should be refused or it should be modified with input from the tree officer, a qualified tree surgeon and the neighbours of #1, #2 and #3 Silver Birches. The applicant and his tree surgeon has stated that the work could be carried out before the end of winter or end of March at the latest. This timeline would best protect the tree so it would be preferable that this matter is resolved in a way which would allow for that timeline to be met.<br><br>Reasons why I object to the planning application as written are set out as follows. |

I believe this tree has a high value of amenity to the neighbourhood. It is a fine specimen Oak tree within 50 meters of the highway and is visible to people passing by Silver Birches on Thakeham Road. It is also valued by the immediate residents in Silver Birches #1,#2 and #3 and forms one of many mature Oak trees that characterise this part of the Storrington, Sullington Parish.

The application states that the tree "requires" a crown reduction of 30% and up to 4 meters as appropriate. No evidence if offered that this reduction is "required" and the total reduction being requested is vague.

The application states the tree is 20 meters tall. By my estimation 10 meters of this is the main trunk and 10 meters is the crown. A 4 meter reduction of the crown would equate to a 40% reduction. The request for reduction appears to be untargeted and arbitrary. It also does not reflect the suggestions of the residents of Silver Birches as communicated to the applicant on 11 November 2024. The tree in question sits on land owned by #3 Silver Birches and is part of the land that is maintained jointly by #1, #2 and #3.

The application states that the applicant "wishes to reduce shading to my garden and eventual threat to my property"

Using the site plans from Planning Application DC/10/1731 raised by the applicant in August 2010 Document Site Plan : 08 it can be seen that the tree in question is actually 24 meters from his property. Measuring the same using Google Earth provides the same distance. No evidence has been offered to suggest that this tree is anything else but healthy and there is no evidence that it presents a risk to the applicants property. It should be noted that the applicants property underwent planning for redevelopment in 2010/11 with the usual 3 year time limit. DC/10/1731 and DC/11/0680

When assessing the merits of the application I would ask for continued consistency. Untargeted pruning requests have previously been refused and only specific actions relating to specific branches of the protected trees has been allowed. As follows.

DC/19/0427 3 22/2/2019 3 Silver Birches.

Seasonal Reduction of 25-30% and dead wood removal. Application Refused as unnecessary, inappropriate, and likely damaging

DC/19/1390 19/07/2019 3 Silver Birches removal of specific limbs of trees. In this application the tree called T12 is the same as the

one being requested in this planning application. For T12 the Removal of two limbs and pruning of 4 others was approved

DC/20/2536 14/12/20 1 Silver Birches

Approved for 2 x 3M reduction for specific lateral branches overhanging garden 1 x 4M reduction for lateral branches over hanging garden house.

DC/21/1759 19/08/21 2 Silver Birches

After consultation with the tree officer we were approved to have 6 Branches pruned of no more than 1M. This tree is of a similar height to the one in the application and is only 12 meters from our property.

DC/22/1773 20/9/22 3 Silver Birches

Removal of tree after failure of large central branch and subsequent branch failure.

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Kind regards

**Telephone:**

**Email:** planning@horsham.gov.uk