

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/26/0521: 31 Roundstone Park Worthing Road Southwater**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:

No representations have been received in respect of this application.

ASSESSMENT:

1. The tree the subject of this application is a mature oak situated with the curtilage of 31 Roundstone Park Worthing Road Southwater. The constraint is TPO/0021, served on 11-02-1970.

2. The subject tree is in extremely close proximity to the adjacent static caravan, to the extent that its buttress roots are in direct physical contact with the structure. The area that would ordinarily fall within the tree's Root Protection Area (RPA) is predominantly occupied by built form and associated landscaped garden, including extensive hard surfacing (e.g. paving slabs).

3. The trees' constrained environment is likely to have significantly impacted its ability to perform essential root functions, including gas exchange, water uptake, and nutrient absorption. Consequently, the tree is currently exhibiting symptoms consistent with physiological decline, most notably a reduced vitality and overall crown density when compared to nearby, somewhat healthier specimens.

4. The tree appears to have been heavily topped in the past, with the existing crown structure consisting largely of secondary reaction growth. Due to the tree's proximity to the adjacent static home, more than half of its crown extends directly over the dwelling, giving rise to concerns regarding falling debris and general tree detritus impacts.

5. Accordingly, while the proposed works do not strictly accord with the principles set out in BS 3998:2010 (Tree Work – Recommendations), it is considered that, in this particular case, there is sufficient justification to support the application. Given the tree's condition, constrained rooting environment, and relationship with the adjacent structure, the proposed works represent a pragmatic approach to managing the identified risks associated with tree as its condition.

6. It is acknowledged that the works will significantly alter the tree's form and may accelerate its decline; however, on balance, there are no overriding arboricultural grounds to resist the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:

- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. TR2 | <i>Time limit, 2 years</i> |
| 2. TR3 | <i>Treeworks limit (standard)</i> |
| 3. TR4 | <i>Surgery standards</i> |
| TINF1 | <i>Note to applicant.</i> |
| TINF2 | <i>Wildlife protection.</i> |

DELEGATED

Authorising Officer sign.....ANBU.....**Arboricultural Officer (Strategic Planning).**

Date.....15 Jul 26...