15 Caffyns Rise
Billingshurst
West Sussex
RH14 9JY

31st October 2024

Dear Sirs,
15 CAFFYNS RISE, BILLINGSHURST
TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990.
TREE SURGERY/CROWN REDUCTION WORKS TO TREE T3 SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

I wish to submit application for consent to carry out works to a tree covered by Tree Preservation Order & designated T3 on the council's register.
The Tree is sited outside of my boundary fence but is within the red boundary line on the Land Registry plan applicable to our house.
I note that there is no tariff associated with this type of application.

The proposed application relates to 1 Oak in a cluster of 2 remaining oaks (T1 & T3) overhanging our garden on the North boundary. Trees T2 & T4 have been removed in accordance with previous approvals DC/16/1274 & DC/18/0511.

The tree designated T3 fully overhangs the garden with lateral branches spanning from the Northern Boundary across the northern half of the garden of 15 Caffyns Rise.

This tree has recently received tree surgery in January 2024 pursuant to approval DC/23/0866.

However, during the surgery the Tree surgeon noted that the upper branches were showing signs of advanced decay, thus requiring a climbing tree survey by an Arboriculturalist to assess the extent of deterioration and to make suitable recommendations based upon their findings.

During July there was a significant limb fall on the West side of the tree arising from decay at its attachment point on a lower forking branch.
This is depicted in its fallen state in the photograph below.



An Arboricultural Tree Condition Report was commissioned from Gale Tree Consultancy; hence I attach the Tree Condition Report as part of this submission.
With specific reference to tree T3, the report recommends a reduction to the crown mass to alleviate loadings on stem sections that have been degraded by decay and with concealed cavities.

The report also highlights the presence of multiple cavities & decay throughout the tree, with most risk associated with the large open cavity 'tear out' on the south primary stem of the tree & at approximately 2/3rds of the way up the trunk.

We propose to implement the tree surgery works described in Item 3.8 "summary of results" which has been précised as follows:

a) To reduce the height of the tree to the approximate dotted red line shown in the tree report on page 11. (reproduced below).



b) To reduce the crown mass to reduce loadings on the affected stem sections. Principally this will involve works to the south primary stem.
c) To establish a more uniform crown shape with a reduction of the north primary stem to mirror the south stem to maintain visual balance.

It is recognised that the tree T3 provides a significant visual amenity within the conservation area, but due to its proximity to properties in Rosehill, safety factors must be considered due to the potential severity of events arising from natural decay.

Hence, we commend the summary of results & recommendations on pages 11 & 12 of Gale Tree Consultancy's Arboricultural Tree Condition report TCR/582/24 submitted with this application.

Tree T3 is indicated on the Location plan attached to this application and diagonally hatched for clarity.

It is hoped that you will give this your favourable consideration, but should you have any queries or require further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

LEIGH TRINDER MCIAT