

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

Planning Committee

**11 AUG 2022**

RECOMMENDED FOR PERMISSION

**Burgess Hill**

**DM/22/1539**

**HOMELANDS OAKWOOD ROAD BURGESS HILL WEST SUSSEX RH15  
0HZ  
RE-POLLARD HORSE CHESTNUT TREE BACK TO PREVIOUS PRUNING  
POINTS.  
JANICE HENWOOD**

ODPM CODE: Tree Application

WARD MEMBERS: Cllr Janice Henwood / Cllr Graham Allen /

CASE OFFICER: Irene Fletcher / Steve Ashdown

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider the recommendation of the Divisional Leader for Planning and Economy on the application for planning permission as detailed above.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Permission is being sought for works to a horse chestnut tree. This application is before Committee as the applicant is a District Councillor.

The tree is located at the front of the property, adjacent to Oakwood Road.

The works are considered appropriate in the interests of safety and will not result in undue harm to the health or amenity value of the tree, and as such it is considered that the proposal complies with policy DP37 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

## **SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS**

None received

## **BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL**

No objection

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Permission is being sought for works to a horse chestnut tree. This application is before Committee as the applicant is a District Councillor.

## **PLANNING POLICY**

### **Mid Sussex District Plan**

Policy DP37 - Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

### **Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan**

The plan was made on 28th January 2016 and forms part of the Development Plan for the District and policies should be afforded full weight.

There are no relevant policies

## **ASSESSMENT**

The tree is located at the front of the property, adjacent to Oakwood Road.

The proposed works consist of pollarding, which is not usually considered acceptable and, since 2012, is no longer acceptable under British Standards. However, there are specific circumstances in this instance that need to be taken into account when considering the requested works.

The tree has previously been pollarded, and now has extensive regrowth, which has been prompted by the pollarding. Major limbs have now developed from the pollard points and, due to the nature of this work, re-pollarding is required to stop the tree 'splitting out' or self-pollarding, which would be a danger to both garden and highway users.

Policy DP37 sets out (amongst other things) that proposals that damage or lead to the loss of trees that contribute either individually, or as group, to the visual amenity value or character of the area, or have wildlife importance, will not normally be permitted. In this case it is recognised that previous pollarding work has taken place to the tree and , therefore, a continuation of these works is necessary. It is considered that the proposed works are acceptable and comply with policy DP37 of Mid Sussex District Plan.

## CONCLUSION

The works are considered appropriate in the interests of safety and will not result in undue harm to the health or amenity value of the tree, and as such it is considered that the proposal complies with policy DP37 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

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## APPENDIX A – RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS

1. The tree works hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 2 years from the date of this consent.

Reason: To accord with section 17 (4) of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

## APPENDIX B – CONSULTATIONS

**Parish Consultation**  
No Objection