Supporting Document

Arboricultural Evidence in support of TPO Application T1 Goat Willow

Address: Land Adjacent to 16 Prince Avenue Lancing West Sussex BN15 8NH

TPO Reference: ADC TPO 13.53-1-15(L) Woodland North of Prince Avenue and West Way Lancing

Adur DC made this TPO on 3rd July 2015 and it was confirmed on 1st September 2015. It is a Woodland TPO and consists of two separate woodland areas. Woodland Area W1 is to the North of Prince Avenue and to the west of Boundary Road in Lancing. Woodland area W2 is at the Western end of West Way and to the East of Willow Brook Park.

T1 Goat Willow is within Woodland area W1 to the North of Prince Avenue Lancing. Although fenced off from Prince Avenue public access is possible via many gaps within the fence line and I have observed dog walkers using this area.

Woodland area W1 consists mainly of Willow closest to the property of No.16 Prince Avenue, however, apple, hawthorn and elder are also here, many of these trees are covered in ivy. Unfortunately, the woodland has the usual signs of public access with lots of discarded plastic/metal rubbish and used as a dumping ground for garden waste.

T1 Goat Willow (Photo 1) is one of the largest trees within the immediate area and is approximately 15m away from the building corner of 16 Prince Avenue and overhangs the front garden and its driveway. The Woodland W1 is to the North of the property. When walking on the driveway of No.16 Prince Avenue Lancing G1 Goat Willow is in line, and to the north of, the small Cherry Tree within the front garden of No.16 Prince Avenue.

The tree is mature and covered in Ivy. It appears wider than it is tall from first glance. However, I estimated an average crown spread of sixteen metres and an estimated height of 16m. Tt is challenging to get an accurate measurement due to the ground vegetation and detritus below the tree causing me to trip upon more than one occasion.

T1 Goat Willow has a main stem bifurcating at 0.5 metres (photo 3). It has a DBH of 700mm on its northern stem and 600mm on its southern stem, there is multi-stems emanating from the southern stem.

The tree crown is in a fair to poor condition, although festooned with Ivy it has a live crown. However, there is a dead area of crown upon its Eastern aspect and a large dead stem 10m tall growing in a North Easterly direction. (Photo 2). There is a large area of crown missing on its East and Southeast aspect due to two failed stems now lying on the floor in an East and Southeast direction. (photo 4)

Upon closer inspection of the stem base, four stems have failed historically on its eastern aspect. Three from its north stem and one centrally between the two main stems (photo 5). There is evidence of further decay at higher levels with bark die-back at 8 metres from ground level when viewed from the property's front door to the Southeast of the tree.

Close inspection of the North stem reveals there are at least five fungal brackets, and limbs have historically failed around this area. I would suggest these are of Ganoderma species and are grouped within a line up to 1.6 metres from ground level. (photo 6 and 7).

The owner of No.16 Prince Avenue has informed me that the largest of the failed stems hit the property on 25th February 2024. (photo 8,9 and 10). There are still abrasion marks to the

building where this struck the northeast corner of it. (Photo 11)

The owner is concerned that further parts of the tree will fall upon the property as the tree has historically dropped a large limb that hit the main building. They are concerned that further limbs could strike the house or fall upon the driveway and damage the car.

The evidence provided shows that the tree has :

- **Historical limb failures that have damaged the adjacent property**
- **A Large dead area of crown**
- **A decayed stem with active fungal brackets upon it**

I recommend that G1 Goat Willow is pollarded to a finished height of four metres above ground level so that it may still be useful to local wildlife. In addition, the tree to be inspected every eighteen months to two years by the land owners as they are responsible for the trees inspection and maintenance under the Occupiers Liability Act 1957/1984. However, at this stage the property owner has found contacting the landowners challenging.

Marcus Brooke NCH Hort (Arb), ND Arb, AA Tech Cert, Tech Arbor A



Photo 1



Photo 2 Dead crown



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7


Photo 8


Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11 Damage to the building, scratches to wall to the left of post box above the gate.