

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 April 2025 14:19:04 UTC+01:00
To: "Emma Rivett" <emma.rivett@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/0995

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 16/04/2025 2:19 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	The Holt 78 High Street Lindfield Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 2HP
Proposal:	Copper Beech - remove x3 lowest limbs overhanging the twitten.
Case Officer:	Emma Rivett

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	The Holt, 78 High Street Lindfield Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: [Corrected dates on previously submitted comment]

We write to formally object to our neighbour's planning application to remove branches from our copper beech tree at the rear of our garden, at 78 High Street, Lindfield.

In section 8 of his application, the applicant notes that he believes the tree is 'diseased or that it might break or fall', yet when he contacted us in writing on 29th January 2025, it was with this complaint:

"The copper beech is handsome but has rather outgrown its position...a few low branches considerably overhang my garden and my large 'greenshed', to the point that I am constantly picking up debris from that tree and I've recently had to reroof the shed because accumulated leaf drop and other debris had rotted the roofing material. In leaf, this overhang also adds to the shade of my underplanting. Removal of just three or so lowest and lightest branches facing my property would benefit me enormously..."

In response, we subsequently arranged for Simon Birkby of Sussex Tree Surgeons to visit our property on 8th March 2025 to examine the tree. He advised us that the copper beech is in perfect health, has no dead wood and poses no safety risk. Furthermore, the lowest of the branches are not noticeably 'low hanging'. We communicated this expert opinion to the applicant in writing on 12th March 2025.

Given its age, size, and position in the conservation area, the tree contributes to our neighbourhood's charm and provides a habitat for local wildlife. When in leaf, the copper beech offers a stunning canopy for walkers on the twitten and can also be seen from the cricket pitch on Lindfield Common, looking up towards All Saints Church. Unnecessarily removing branches could compromise these benefits and weaken the tree.

Rather than unnecessarily pruning branches from this magnificent tree, the applicant might consider relocating his 'greenshed'.

Kind regards