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Crown Lift Specification to 3.5m of the two conifer trees - Application Number 17/00113/TC

To facilitate the installation of scaffolding, Brenchley Mews Development, Charing, Kent

22 June 2017

Description: Crown lifting is the selective reduction and removal of the lower branches. Crown lifting is specified as the height from the ground to the desired height of lowest secondary branch.

Reason: Crown lifting is carried out to increase the clearance between the ground level and the lower branches either to allow access below the tree, to clear sight lines, improve views or allow light to penetrate to the ground to encourage plant and grass growth. We have sought the advice of an Arboriculturalist who has advised that this pruning will be necessary due to the required positioning of the scaffolding. We propose to crown lift to give 3.5m clearance above ground level. We propose this form of branch removal to allow for the safe access and working of operatives on the development and leave the crown at least two thirds of the total height of the tree.

Specification: As will be dictated by the individual trees, the number and size of pruning wounds will be limited and well-spaced, so there is less chance of decay pockets combining to form larger cavities within the stem of the tree. Where possible, to help prevent decay, we will leave small branches on the lower trunk because they help minimize injury from sudden sun exposure by shading the trunk. They will also speed up the closure of pruning wounds. These branches (with a diameter of less than 18mm) will be carefully tied back. Only branches with diameters larger than this, will be removed. Being a robust tree, we have been advised that a crown lift would not prevent it from continuing to grow and thrive.