Application to carry out maintenance work to a Yew tree in the garden of Thatched Cottage, Shenton. Application number 11/00035/TREES

Question 7 on the form. Description of Works

The Yew Tree stands fairly close to the house and the intention is to thin the density of the tree's crown without materially changing the overall shape and size of the tree to reduce the amount of foliage and allow more light through the canopy or crown.

The very nature of the tree, with branches that hang low and in some cases down to the ground, means that there will be an element of crown lifting involved as in some cases the lower branches are obstructing the paths. I would propose to remove the lower branches which reach down to the ground. One branch is very nearly touching the roof of the house and I think it would be wise to deal with this now before there is any possibility of structural damage.

The south west side of the tree has grown more vigorously than the rest and this must be brought in hand to maintain a balanced shape.

I would expect somewhere in the region of 10% thinning.

It is not intended to reduce the height of the tree.

I have retained James Hayles, tree surgeon, to carry out the work in as sensitive a manner as possible so as to preserve the character of the tree and, indeed, our house (as the tree and house together make a picturesque setting).