Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 13/07/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/0627/23**
Address	**29 The Heights Worthing West Sussex BN14 0AJ**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.27 of 2001 to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, one Sycamore tree T11.**

Date of site visit: 12/07/23

Neighbours checked: Y
Additional neighbour notifications: N
Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area): N

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a mature Sycamore tree located on raised ground to the Southwest of the rear garden, close to the boundary with properties in Valley Gardens. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and reduce radial spread.

The reasons for the works are primarily in the interests of light issues and amenity value.

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 27 of 2001 confirmed on 12/06/2001.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 27 of 2001 to reduce western side overhang by 2m of Sycamore T11.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Sycamore growing in the rear garden adjacent to the front garden and drive of 6 Valley Gardens. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem that is clear to 7 metres, and has a dog leg at 2 metres moving the stem to the Southwest. The main stem persists to 13 metres where it then divides into multiple smaller stems. The first significant upright laterals emerge from 7 metres becoming wider spread toward the top of the tree. The stem has some shedding bark that is being replaced with the patchy plated bark of mature Acers. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to

pass around the crown. The works appear to have been slightly over estimated and have been changed by conditions.

The amended works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the tree and would not significantly or adversely affect its appearance, amenity value, or its contribution to the character of the area.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans
2. The proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to;

   i Reduction in crown height of up to 3 metres.

   ii Reduction in radial spread of up to 2 metres.

   only unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority and carried out within two years from the date of consent and in accordance with the British Standard BS 3998: 2010 Tree Work.

   Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 13/07/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 13/7/23