Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 12/04/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0283/24**
Address	**8 Farncombe Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 2BE**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre Pine trees P1 and P2, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres one Oak tree and one Chestnut tree, in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 07/03/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to four small to medium sized early mature trees located along the Western and Southern boundaries of the property. The trees are a part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread to two Pine trees, one Oak tree and one Chestnut tree.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to The Worthing Society, who did not respond.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1985: The property is included within Conservation Area VII (Farncombe Road) designated by the Council on 7th November 1985.

2020: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce apical and lateral spread by a maximum of 1m to one Scots Pine (T1) along west boundary wall, to reduce apical and lateral spread by 0.5m to previous pollard points of one Turkey Oak (T2) along west boundary wall, to reduce apical and lateral spread by 1.5m to upper, previous pollard points of one Horse Chestnut (T3) along the southern boundary, to reduce apical and lateral spread by 1m of one Scots Pine (T4) along the southern boundary and to reduce the longest apical and lateral spread by 1m of one Ash (T5) in rear garden, all within the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The trees are four small matures growing in the front and side gardens, some adjacent to the pavement of Farncombe Road, where they are prominent to the area, and can be seen from several views.

The trees are:

Oak tree T1
The Turkey Oak T2 is growing in a border adjacent to the boundary wall between the two crossovers onto Farncombe Road. The tree has relatively large diameter single stem to 4 metres, where it begins to divide, with wider spreading laterals from 2.5 metres. The main crown is dense with a distinct ball shape.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to maintain the size and shape of the tree.

Chestnut tree T2
The Horse Chestnut tree is located on the southern boundary close to the vehicular entrance from Farncombe Road. The tree has a single stem to 1 metre, where it then divides into 2 stems that each divide again from 1.75 to 2 metres forming a large wide array of slender upright stems. The main crown is dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, and continue with its current management regime.

Pine trees T3
This tree is located the furthest North, close to the junction of Farncombe Road and Church Walk. The tree has single stem to 5 metres, where it then divides into several stems, with the first laterals emerging at 1.5 metres. The main crown is dense and slightly over balanced to the east.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree.

Pine trees T4
The second Pine tree is located in the side garden, on the southern boundary between number 8 and 6 Farncombe Road. The tree has a single stem that persists to 8 metres where it may have previously been reduced. The main crown is dense and wide spread with uniformly spaced laterals from 2.5 metres.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the trees and would not significantly or adversely affect their appearance, amenity value, or contribution to the character of the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 12/04/2024

Authorised by: LPrew Date: 15/04/2024