Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 01/09/16**

Application Number	**AWDM/1039/16**
Address	**Romans Care Home Roman Road Southwick BN42 4TP**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No. 13.53/01/91(SW) of 1991 to install Tree Support System to one Beech tree T1 and one Holm Oak T5, to crown lift up to 3 metres and reduce radial spread on north side by up to 2 metres, two Holm Oak trees T9 and T7, and to remove one rubbing limb on Prunus tree T6.**

Date of site visit: 16/08/16

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings
The application refers to five trees; four along the southern frontage of the rest home and one within the enclosed garden area to the west of the main building. The trees are part of an established group of trees, which are part of in the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to install tree bracing to two trees crown lift two trees and to remove rubbing and crossed limbs on a smaller Prunus tree.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1991: Adur Tree Preservation order Number TPO/13.53/1/91(SW) confirmed on 21/11/1991.

2002: Works To Beech, Holly, Prunus, And Holm Oak Trees Subject To Tpo 13.53/1/91(SW)

2009: Reduction of limbs (on north and east sides) of Beech tree (subject to TPO 13/53/1/91/SW)

2013: Application for consent under Adur District Council Tree Preservation Order 13.53/1/91 (SW) to reduce radial spread of crown on east and west aspects by up to 2m, reduce radial spread of crown on south aspect by up to 3m, crown thin by up to 10% and reduce height by up to 3m one Beech tree (T1). Remove dead wood and broken limbs from two Holm Oak trees (T7 and T9) Crown lift over car park up to 3m one Holm Oak (T1) Crown lift up to 3m.

Planning Assessment

<u>Holm T5</u>
Holm Oak tree T5 is the largest and most prominent tree on the site standing at around 17 metres tall. This tree is very much a part of the area, and blends in with the street trees of a similar size and age.

Beech T1

The second most prominent tree on the site is the Common Beech T1. This tree is a stand alone specimen tree, growing close to the centre of the complex of buildings, in a lawn area. The tree is approximately 14 metres tall with a compact crown consisting of several large diameter upright secondary stems.

The application is to install a bracing system to the main stems of both trees. This work is to ensure the longevity and safety of the trees and will not affect their visual amenity.

Holm Oaks T7 and T9

The two Holm Oak trees T7 and T9 are 10 to 12 metres tall trees are medium sized trees growing in the Southern border adjacent to the junction of Roman Road and Roman Way. The trees are a part of a dense line of trees and have the majority of their crowns to the northside, being slightly suppressed by the larger nearby Street trees. The trees have some low hanging secondary branches that arch over close to the main building. The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 3 metres. The works are to clear the main building, and allow access beneath the trees.

Prunus T6

This is a small to medium sized ornamental tree growing in between the Holm Oaks. The tree is mostly upright and compact and has no need of lifting or reduction. The centre of the crown has some damaged limbs one of which has re-grown laterally through the centre of the crown. The proposed works are to remove this limb, to prevent rubbing and allow the crown to form a more open shape.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall number size, and form of the trees and would not significantly or adversely affect their appearance, amenity value or their contribution to the character of the area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. The proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application 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: 01/09/2016

Authorised by: PD Date: 1.9.16