Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 08/05/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0316/25**
Address	**Corvil Court 29 Shelley Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4DF**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to pollard at 5 metres, and associated works, one Sycamore tree T21.**

Date of site visit: 01/04/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Sycamore tree located to the centre of the Southern boundary wall of the rear parking and garage compound. The tree is a part of the local landscape and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to pollard at 5 metres, and associated works.

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

1996: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 15 of 1996 confirmed on 020/03/201904.

1999: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order no. 15/1996 to remove one branch of Cherry tree (T22) overhanging roofs of garages. Refused.

2002: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to crown lift one Himalayan Cotoneaster (T17) and one Norway Maple (T18) to give a ground clearance of up to three metres; prune back to perimeter wall and crown lift to give a ground clearance of three metres over pavement and road one Yew tree (T20)

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 15/1996 to crown lift to 2.5 metres above ground level one Himalayan Cotoneaster (T17) and one Yew tree (T20)

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 15 of 1996 for minor pruning to maintain canopy shape to one Cotoneaster (T17); minor crown thin (10%), reduce branches extending over highway and balance canopy to Norway Maple (T18), minor formative prune to Purple Leaved Plum (T19); remove epicormic growth around base giving clear trunk to 2 metres, prune back long limbs to shape canopy to Common Yew (T20).

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to reduce overhanging branches on south-west side by up to 1.5m to one Sycamore tree (T21).

2024: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 1.5 metres one Norway Maple tree T18.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Sycamore growing in the rear garage compound adjacent to the car parking areas of Lomas Court in Wordsworth Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 2.25 metres were it divides into 5 to 6 main upright scaffold limbs. Each stem supports several significant sized secondary laterals, some of which are close to the adjacent buildings. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to pollard at 5 metres, and associated works, one Sycamore tree T21. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown.

These works in my opinion would be relatively large in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the tree, however the effect on its appearance will be temporary allowing its amenity value and contribution to the character of the area to continue within one to two seasons.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans

2. 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: 08/05/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 09/05/2025