Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 26/07/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0635/24**
Address	**14 The Plantation Worthing West Sussex BN13 2AJ**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.17 of 1992 to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, one Ash tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 13/06/24

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 Ash tree in the rear garden of the property on the Western boundary. The tree is a prominent part of the local landscape and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1992: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 17 of 1992 confirmed on 21/10/92.

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 17/1992 to fell one Pine tree (T5). Application Refused.

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 17 of 1992 to crown lift up to 6 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown thin by up to 15% one Ash tree T1, and to crown lift up to 7 metres and crown thin up to 10% one Corsican Pine T5 situated in garden of No. 12 The Plantation.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.17 of 1992 to fell and replace one Douglas Fir tree T6.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.17 of 1992 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and reduce crown height by up to 2.5 metres, one tree Silver Birch tree T3.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 17 of 1992 to remove lowest branch on west side, crown lift up to 6m and deadwood crown one Pine T4 as noted on

the confirmed TPO and remove main limb heading west, remove secondary branch heading north and deadwood crown one Ash T1 as noted on the confirmed TPO.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 17 of 1992 to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres one Silver Birch tree T3 and to remove one lower limb of Monterey Pine tree T4 in the garden of No. 14 The Plantation.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Ash growing in the rear garden close to the Eastern boundary with No.12, in the southern half of the rear garden. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Ash tree has 3 main stems emerging from ground level. The crown breaks on each stem at 6-7 metres, and is open with heavily laden branches at the outer tips. There are some low hanging branches which are mostly secondary. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some overextended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres. 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 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 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: 26/07/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 29.07.2024