Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 12/02/18**

Application Number	**AWDM/1887/17**
Address	**71 The Green Southwick BN42 4FX**
Proposal	**Application under Southwick Tree Preservation Order No. 13.53/2/97/SW to re-pollard to previous points, remove 3-4 lower branches, raise crown clearance to over garage/building of Elm tree (T1) in rear garden.**

Date of site visit: 05/01/18

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium sized mature Elm tree near the northwest corner of the rear garden adjacent to the footpath entrance and garage compound. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to re-pollard to previous points, remove three to four lower branches.

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

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

1997: Adur Tree Preservation order 13.53/2/97/SW of 1997, made but not confirmed.

2002: Adur Tree Preservation order 13.53/01/02(SW) of 2002 confirmed 20/05/2002.

2012: Proposed works to 1 no Elm tree (T1) protected under Order No. 13 of 2002 comprising; reduction of overall crown by 2 metres leaving a height of 4/5 metres and canopy lift by 1 metre, together with thinning

Planning Assessment

The tree is a mature Elm growing in the rear garden adjacent to the garage buildings to the west of 71 The Green. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Elm tree T1 has large diameter single stem to 1.22 metres where it then divides into 2 large stems that each divide again at 3 to3.5 metres. These stems have each been harshly reduced at 6 to 7 metres. The resulting regrowth is mostly small and forms several bushy heads to the main stems.

The main crown is dense and some wider spread laterals, that extend close to the garage building.

The proposed works are to re-pollard to previous points, remove 3 to 4 lower branches, and raise crown over garage building.

These works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, allow access beneath the crown and allow clearance to the adjacent building.

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 Southwick Conservation 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: 07/02/2018

Authorised by: PB Date: 7/2/18