Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 13/07/17**

Application Number	**AWDM/0938/17**
Address	**59 Southwick Street Southwick BN42 4TH**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove selected limb on western side of one Bullous tree T2, to pollard one Sycamore tree T4, and to fell one Portuguese Laurel T1, and one Sycamore T3 in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 04/07/17

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one medium to large sized mature tree and three smaller trees in the rear garden. The trees are mostly only partially visible from the road, with the larger Sycamore tree T4 being the most prominent. The trees make a limited contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to remove one selected limb on western side of the Bullous tree T2, to re-pollard the Sycamore tree T4, and to fell one Portuguese Laurel T1, and one Sycamore T3.

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

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

Consultations: Letter sent to Adur Conservation Advisory Group, who at their meeting of the 14/07/17 unanimously agreed that the application should be approved.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

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

Planning Assessment

The trees are growing in the rear garden of the property, along the north and south boundaries. The mature Sycamore T3 is the most prominent to the area.

The trees are:

<u>Portuguese Laurel T1</u>
This tree is growing near the northeast corner of the garden. The tree is multi stemmed from ground level with some fused stems. The main crown is relatively low and wide spread. The proposed work is to fell or reduce to ground level, to allow more available space in the garden.

Bullous tree T2
The Bullous tree is a variety of plum that bears edible fruit similar to those of the damson. The species is often found, as in this case, as small tree, of around 7 to 8 metres in height. This tree has twin stems from ground level that each divide at 1 metre. The secondary stems are mostly upright, with the exception of the angled out stem on the west side. The main crown is dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to remove back to source, one lateral limb on western side. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree crown.

Sycamore tree T3
This tree is a young sapling that is twin stemmed from 1 metre, with the western stem having been lost or removed. The stump has minimal re-growth, with the eastern stem extending to 6 to 7 metres. The tree has self-seeded near the southwest corner of the rear garden, directly adjacent to the garage building of 57 Southwick Street. The proposed works are to remove the tree due to its proximity to the adjacent garage wall.

Sycamore tree T4
The Sycamore tree T4 is located to the southeast of the garden close to its entrance. The tree is a large mature with a single stem to 0.75 metres where it then becomes twin, each stem dividing again at 2 metres, into several large diameter upright stems. These stems have been uniformly p[ollarded at 3 metres. The resulting re-growth is a mass of mostly slender upright stems that persist to the top of the crown. The main crown is dense with some wider spread slightly over extended secondary laterals.

The proposed works are to re-pollard the tree at 3 metres, slightly above the last points. These works are to contain the size and spread of the tree crown, abate nuisance allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

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 their contribution to the character of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 13/07/2017

Authorised by: PD Date: 2.8.17