Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 14/01/19**

Application Number	**AWDM/1821/18**
Address	**48 Oldfield Crescent Southwick West Sussex BN42 4FZ**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell Silver Birch T1; re-pollard to previous points Willow T2, both in rear garden.**

Date of site visit: 14/01/19

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two trees on the western boundary of the rear garden, adjacent to the entrance road to the Glebe School, Church Lane Southwick. The trees vary in size and age and are mostly visible from the public road.

Consent is sought to fell the Silver Birch tree, due to poor health and to re-pollard to previous points the Willow.

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: Southwick Conservation Area designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas: Manor House, The Green and Church Lane.

2018: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce height by 2-3m, reduce radial growth by 3-4m and crown thin by 10% one Oak tree T1; reduce height by 3-4m, reduce radial growth by 2-3m and thin by 10% one Willow tree T2; reduce height and radial growth by 1-2m of one Indian Bean T3; reduce height and radial growth by 1-2m of one Silver Birch T4; reduce height by 2-3m and trim sides of two Bay trees T5 and T6 and to reduce height and radial growth by 1-2m and thin by 10% one Cherry tree T7 all of which lie within the Southwick Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two small to medium sized trees growing close to the West boundary of the rear garden, which are a part of an established group which is prominent to the area, can be seen from many views, and are part of the street scene. The trees as part of a group make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area. The trees are;

T2 Willow
The Willow tree is in the southwest corner of the garden adjacent to the entrance roadway to Glebe School from Church Lane Southwick. The tree is single stemmed to 2 metres, where it then divides into 3 main stems. The tree has been pollarded at 6 to 7 metres, and has formed a dense wide spread crown.

The proposed works are to re-pollard to original points to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air into the garden.

T4 Silver Birch
This is a slender tree growing on the western boundary of the rear garden, where it is visible from the nearby school and Church Hall. The tree has a single stem to 2 metres, where it divides into two, each which has been unsympathetically reduced. The tree had a heavy insurgence of thick Ivy and Vine removed earlier this year. This has revealed a tree that appears to be in decline, with poor regrowth and with little potential to for improvement.

The main crown has some protruding limbs, but is mostly sparse and compact. The proposed works are to fell and replace the tree.

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 the appearance, amenity value, or 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: 14/01/2019

Authorised by: PB Date: 15/1/19