Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 04/02/16**

Application Number	**AWDM/0014/16**
Address	**30 Lesser Foxholes Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5NT**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.162/1/66(SU) of 1966 to reduce crown height by up to 3 to 4 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 2 to 3 metres on one Holm Oak tree T1**

Date of site visit: 03/02/16

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single large Holm Oak tree in the rear garden of 30 Lesser Foxholes. The tree is growing at the top of a steep incline, directly adjacent to a long standing garden building that overlooks the Adur Valley.

The tree is a part of an established number of trees, which are part of in the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce the height and radial spread of the tree.

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

1966: Shoreham Tree Preservation order 162/1/66 (SU) of 1966 confirmed on 08/09/66.

2013: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order 162/1/66 (SU) to remove the 2 lowest branches back to the main stem on one Scots Pine tree.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature in the rear garden, with a main stem that is growing at an angle of 45 degrees directly adjacent to a large wooden garden building. The tree has a leaning single large stem to 4 metres with a large meandering side stem at 2 metres. The main stem divides into two smaller stems at 4 metres, which each divide again into multiple stems at 4.25 metres. The main crown is formed of long slender stems that extend to the top of the crown. The tree is mostly squat, is still top heavy with an over balance to the west.

The proposed works are to reduce the crown height by up to 3 to 4 metres creating new pollard points above the originals. Works also proposed are to reduce the radial spread by up to 2 to 3 metres. These works are to ensure that the tree is retained and to reduce the overall weight in the upper crown.

These works in my opinion will be large in relation to the overall size and form of the tree and a significant amount of reduction will take place. However the effect on the trees appearance will not be detrimental as the result will be to preserve its amenity value and its contribution to the character of the area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application, only, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA, 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: 04/02/2016

Authorised by: PD Date: 4.2.16