**Development Management – Delegated Officer Report** **Date; 24/05/2024**

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| **Application Number** | **AWDM/0362/24** |
| **Address** | **16 First Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NJ** |
| **Proposal** | **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.35 of 2003 to reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres and reduce radial spread by 0.5 to 1 metre, one Liquidambar tree T5.** |

**Date of site visit:** 15/04/24

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

**Proposal, Site and Surroundings**

The application refers to a large early mature Liquid Amber located near the southwest corner of the front garden, close to the boundary wall and public footpath. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce height and radial spread.

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

**Consultations:** None.

**Representations:** None received.

**Relevant Planning History**

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 35 of 2003 confirmed on 26/11/2003.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 35 of 2003 to reduce in height by 2.5m, reduce lateral canopy by 2m and crown thin by 10% one sweet gum tree (T5).

**Planning Assessment**

The tree is a large early mature Sweet Gum growing near the Southwest corner of the front garden, where it is prominent to the street scene, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has twin stems from ground level which are fused to 1.5 metres. The two stems persist to 5 metres where both stems were formatively reduced. The resulting re-growth consists of several large stems that make the tree slightly top heavy. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres and reduce radial spread by 0.5 to 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree.

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: 24/05/2024

Authorised by: Date: