Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 15/07/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0618/25**
Address	**Care For Veterans Boundary Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4LJ**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.30 of 1980 to reduce radial spread to previous points one Holm Oak tree T2 of group G1.**

Date of site visit: 04/07/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one Holm Oak tree of group G1 of Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.30 of 1980, which consists of 5 mature Holm Oak trees, in and around the controlled parking area of Care for Veterans (formally Alexandra Hospital), bordering the car parking area of the adjacent Airdale Court (the applicants). The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread to previous points one Holm Oak tree T2 of group G1.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1980: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 30 of 1980 confirmed on 10/02/1981.

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 30/1980 to crown lift to 5 metres and reduce and reshape by 20% an overhang to lawned area only, remove dead and diseased wood to 4 Lime trees (Group G2)

2008: Application to fell one Holm Oak adjacent to eastern boundary wall.

2012: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 30 of 1980 crown lift to 4 metres and thin by 10% Lime trees in SW corner (G.2), cut back from street lights Oak (T.1) and Yew (T.2); Notice under S.211 for works to reduce spread of conifers and fruit trees on west boundary to leave 1 metre over footpath and remove dead tree.

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 30 of 1980 to fell and replace three Holm Oak trees of group G1, reduce northernmost bough by up to 4 metres on one Holm Oak tree of group G1, and remove deadwood from two Holm Oak trees of group G1. Split Decision: Refused felling of tree T1

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 30 of 1980 to crown lift up to 5 metres, remove dead wood and crown thin up to 10% two Holm Oak trees of group G1.

2017: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.30 of 1980 to crown lift up to 5 metres, and crown thin 15% four Lime trees T1 T2 T3 & T4 of group G2, and to remove selected overhanging limbs on Lime trees T1 and T2 of G2.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.30 of 1980 to reduce radial spread to east by up to 1.5 metres, and crown lift up to 5 metres two Holm Oaks T1, and to fell and replace one Holm Oak tree T3 all of group G1

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Holm Oak T2 of group G1 growing in the car parking area of Care for Veterans, to the eastern side of the grounds. The tree is part of a group that provides a tall partial screen between the care home and Airedale Court to the east. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The tree has two separate stems from ground level, the stem to the north of the two is single to 3 metres, where it then divides into three main stems, which each divide again at 7 to 8 metres. The stem to the south is a more compact upright tree, with a single stem to 1.5 metres where it divides into two parallel co-dominant stems. The foliage is sparse from 4 to 8 metres and becomes denser to the top of the crown. The stems have a shared intertwined crown that is dense and wide spread, the northern stem forming the denser wider spreading section that is slightly protected from the salt laden winds

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to previous points (approximately 1 metre) on the Eastern side of the crown. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown.

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: 15/07/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 16.07.2025