Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 09/05/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0352/25**
Address	**25 Goring Way Worthing West Sussex BN12 4UH**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2002 to fell and replace one Silver Birch tree T2.**

Date of site visit: 08/04/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a small mature Silver Birch in the side garden between the main house and the separate garage building. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to fell and replace Silver Birch tree T2.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2002: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 38 of 2002 confirmed on 10/12/2002.

2005: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 38/2002 to crown reduce by up to one metre and crown clean one Flowering Cherry (T1) and to remove eastward growing branches at 6 metres to one Silver Birch tree (T2).

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 38 of 2002 to fell one Flowering Cherry (T1) and reduce top branches by up to 1 metre, reduce branches growing towards house by up to 1 metre and raise crown to 2.5 metres, to one Silver Birch (T2).

2012: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 38 of 2002 to reduce longest branches by up to 1 metre and thin the crown by 10% and remove deadwood, on one Silver Birch (T2). Refused.

2017: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 38 of 2002 to reduce radial spread by up to 0.5 metre, prune to allow clearance to buildings of up to 1.5 metres and crown thin 10% one Silver Birch tree T2.

2021: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2002 to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre, prune to allow clearance to main building and garage of up to 1.5 metres, and remove damaged branch Silver Birch tree T2.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a small mature Silver Birch tree growing in the side garden close to both the main house and the detached garage. The tree is clearly visible from Goring Road and the unmaintained crescent of 1 to 25 Goring Way.

The Silver Birch tree T2 has a single stem to 7 metres where the crown then breaks, with the first significant sized limb emerging at 3 metres. The tree has not recovered / re-grown since the last approved works in 2021. The main crown is open with some wider spread laterals. The north-side of the tree is sparsely foliated and has several dead branches, with the Southern side, being completely dead and defoliated.

The proposed works are to fell and replace the tree, due to its overall decline.

These works in my opinion will be large in relation to the overall number of trees and a significant amount of change will take place. However the effect on the area will be compensated with the provision of a replacement tree.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans

2. The proposed felling of the Silver Birch tree T2 of TPO 38 of 2002, identified on the applicant's plan as T1, and its replacement shall be carried out in full within two years from the date of this consent and in accordance with details of the size species and position of the replacement tree planting to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

   Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

3. If within five years following replanting, the replacement tree dies or becomes seriously diseased, another tree of the same size and species shall be planted in a similar position during the next planting season following the removal of the replacement tree, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written approval to any variation.

   Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 09/05/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 09/05/2025