Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 03/09/14**

Application Number **AWDM/1043/14**

Site Address: **19 Roman Crescent Southwick BN42 4TY**

Proposal: **Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Holm Oak tree in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 02/09/14

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single early mature Holm Oak tree growing in the rear garden between rear extensions of 21 and 19 Roman Crescent.

Consent is sought to fell the tree, and replace with an Ash tree further away from the buildings.

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: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas: Manor House, The Green and Church Lane. The area was extended in 1979 to include buildings on the North side of Roman Crescent.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a medium to large sized early mature tree growing between buildings 21 and 19 Roman Crescent in the rear garden of 19 Roman Crescent. Although the tree would have been a reasonable size at the time, it was not considered to have enough amenity value to be included in the Tree Preservation Order No. 3 of 1976.

The tree is not prominent in the street scene, but can be viewed from the public Highway, and makes a contribution to the visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

The tree is 14 metres tall on a single stem to 2.5 metres, with the crown break at 4 metres. The main crown has been pruned to give a columnar form, so as to clear the adjacent buildings, however as its

overall size has increases reduction works would become more drastic. The tree has a slight imbalance toward the north, with a defined lean in the main stem: possibly due to the proximity of the main buildings. The small area between the buildings in which the Holm Oak tree is growing, is mostly hard surfaces.

The proposed works are to fell and replace the tree, with an Ash tree further to the North. Given that the trees contribution to the area is low, and that future development of the tree is limited, it is recommended that felling be permitted.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall number, and size of trees in the area would not significantly or adversely affect the amenity value of the Southwick Conservation 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: 03/09/2014

Authorised by: PD Date: 3.9.14