Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date: 18/08/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/0832/23**
Address	**32 The Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN12 6JA**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.5 of 1997 to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, two Lombardy Poplar trees T1 and T2.**

Date of site visit: 17/08/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large tall, mature Lombardy Poplar trees located at the centre of the northern boundary wall adjacent to the footpath of the rear front garden Road. 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 crown height by up to 5 metres, two Lombardy Poplar trees T1 and T2.

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

1997: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 5 of 1997 confirmed on 12/03/1997.

Planning Assessment

The trees are large mature Poplars growing in the rear garden adjacent to the Northeast and SouthEast corners. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are;

<u>Lombardy Poplar T12</u>
This tree is located in the Northeast corner of the rear garden. The tree has a large diameter single stem that extends to 12 metres, tapering down in girth. The main stem has several large upright secondaries from 2 metres, and some smaller epicormic growth at 1.5 to 2 metres. The main crown is dense and compact.

<u>Lombardy Poplar T2</u>
Growing in the Southeast corner of the rear garden the Lombardy Poplar T2 has an equally large diameter single stem that persists to 6 metres. At 6 metres a compound stem begins to the east, that becomes fully separated from 10 metres, and several other slightly smaller stems emerge, that mostly persist to the top. The main crown is dense and compact.

The proposed works for both trees are to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres. The works are to contain the size of the tree and reduce the possibility of wind damage and “tear outs” high in the crown.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the trees and would not significantly or adversely affect their appearance, amenity value, or 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: 18/08/2023

Authorised by: Gary Peck Date: 18 August 2023