Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date: 21/08/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0836/24**
Address	**Linfield Care Home 18-22 Wykeham Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4JD**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.13 of 1992 to reduce radial spread to South 2 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres, one Ash tree T8.**

Date of site visit: 09/07/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium early sized mature Ash tree located near the centre of the Western boundary of the front grounds. 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 radial spread to South and crown lift Ash tree T8.

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

1989: The property is included within the Shakespeare Road Conservation Area X designated by the Council on 25th April 1989.

1992: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 13 of 1992 confirmed on 04/09/1992.

2005: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order 13/1992 to crown lift by approximately 2 metres to one Horse Chestnut (T6)

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 13 of 1992 to tidy and deadwood one Sweet Chestnut (T7), one Common Horse Chestnut (T5) and one Red Horse Chestnut (T6) and to crown lift one branch over pavement, tidy and deadwood one Purple-leaved Plum (T4).

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.13 of 1992 to fell and replace one Red Horse Chestnut tree T6.

2018: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell three acacia trees on south east boundary fence in the Shakespeare Road Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a small mature Ash growing in a border between the front car park and the boundary with number 24 Wykeham Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 2.25 metres where it then divides into two main stems. The North stem terminates at 5.5 metres, with the Southeast stem dividing again from 5.5 metres. The tree is dense with branches but has slightly sparse foliage cover. The Main crown is dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to South by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow access beneath 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 Shakespeare Road Conservation 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: 21/08/2024

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 22/08/2024