Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 26/03/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/0175/24**
Address	**59 Southwick Street Southwick West Sussex BN42 4TH**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce to a height of 2.5 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre, Portuguese Laurel tree T1 in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 15/02/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium sized mature evergreen Prunus tree that has been treated as boundary hedge in the front garden of the property. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce to a height and radial spread.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

2017: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove selected limb on western side of one Bullous tree T2, to pollard one Sycamore tree T4, and to fell one Portuguese Laurel T1, and one Sycamore T3 in the Southwick Conservation Area.

2020: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce height by 2.3 metres and reduce spread to north and south by 1.5 metres to 1no. Plum tree, within the Southwick Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a medium size mature Laurel growing in the front garden adjacent to the Southern boundary. The tree is prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem from ground level to 1.75 metres, where it divides into several smaller stems that each extend widely to the East and West forming an oblong crown. The tree attains a height of 7 to 8 metres, appearing to be more of a tall hedge than a tree. The main crown is dense and wide spread with an incursion of thick Ivy that extends to 2 metres..

The proposed works are to reduce to an overall height of 2.5 metres, and reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow access to the North and South sides.

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 Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 26/03/2024

Authorised by: PB Date: 26/3/24