Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 01/11/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1272/23**
Address	**Street Record Hillside Avenue Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.1 of 1978 to crown lift up to 4 to 5 metres one Weeping Willow tree T8.**

Date of site visit: 25/09/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium to large sized mature willow tree located at the southern end of the entrance road into Hillside Avenue. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to crown lift one Weeping Willow 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

1978: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 1 of 1978 confirmed on 03/04/1978.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.1 of 19783 to reduce all new growth to previous pollard points two Willow trees T3 and T8.

Planning Assessment

The tree is growing on the grass verges on the Eastern side of the un-adopted feed road into Hillside Avenue, at its junction with Warren Road. The tree is one of several trees along the entrance way that are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views, including the main route way through, and into Worthing of the A27 (Warren Road).

The tree is a single stem to 3 metres that then becomes twin stemmed with a “Y” shaped union. Each stem supports some large regrowth, and has signs of damage, such as lost limbs cavities etc. The tree is dense with small secondary limbs that have re-grown following a full pollard in 2018. The main crown is dense and wide spread with many low hanging laterals.

The proposed works are to crown lift up to 4 to 5 metres to allow access and allow more light and air to pass 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 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: 01/11/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 1/11/23