Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 23/04/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0179/25**
Address	**Southease Bost Hill Worthing West Sussex BN13 3DA**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.6 of 1991 to crown lift up to 8 metres one Beech tree T1 of Area A1.**

Date of site visit: 16/04/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single Beech tree of group A1, which is on the South border of the rear garden of Southease Bost Hill. The group of trees are more than 20 metres tall and growing on a steep incline along the boundary with Wyndown Mill Lane, where they are part of a prominent wooded area around Mill Lane and Bost Hill.

Consent is sought to crown lift one Beech tree T1 of Area A1.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1991: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 6 of 1991 confirmed on 18/06/1991.

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 6 of 1991 to reduce radial spread of crown by up to 1 - 1.5 metres, and crown lift up to 5 metres three Beech trees of group A1, and fell one Beech tree of group A1

2021: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 6 of 1991 to reduce radial spread by up to 4 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres, Beech trees of area A1, and to reduce by up to 5 metres one selected limb on Beech tree at western end of area A1.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Beech growing on a steep incline to the south of the garden of Southease Bost Hill, and is a part of a number of trees that merge with the trees of the public open space of The Gallops, to the East. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The Beech tree T1 is the largest tree of area A1, located at the top of the incline to the western end of the group. The tree has a large diameter single stem to 3 metres, where it then divides into three tightly forked stems that each divide again at 18 metres. The first branches emerge from 2 to 3

metres with a large lateral on the southwest that protrudes from the main crown extending widely over the neighbouring property. The main crown is dense and widespread with many over extended and lower hanging laterals.

The proposed works are to crown lift up to 8 metres. The works are 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: 23/04/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 24.04.2025