Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 21/03/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0035/25**
Address	**115 Littlehampton Road Worthing West Sussex BN13 1QU**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.26 of 2002 to reduce to suitable growth points two selected limbs: on Eastside at 3.5 and 4 metres, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres, Sycamore tree T1 of group G1, and to reduce three limbs on eastside by up to 2.5 metres of Sycamore tree T2 of group G1 (within 117 Littlehampton Road).**

Date of site visit: 28/01/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large mature Sycamore trees located either side of the front garden boundary wall between 117 and 115 Littlehampton Road. The trees are part of a group that is a prominent part of the street scene and contribute to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce to suitable growth points two selected limbs and to reduce crown height and radial spread, Sycamore tree T1 of group G1, and to reduce three limbs on east side of Sycamore tree T2 of group G1.

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

2002: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 26 of 2002confirmed on 25/02/2003.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large mature Sycamores of group G1 which extends across the front gardens of 115 (applicants) to 117 Littlehampton Road. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

<u>Sycamore tree T1 of group G1</u>
This tree is growing within a small border to the Southeast of group G1 within the front garden of 115 Littlehampton Road. The tree has a single stem to 7 metres where it then divides into several stems including 2 to 3 central uprights that persist to within 2 to 3 metres of the top. The first significant limbs emerge from 3.5 metres and are widespread. The main crown is dense and widespread with some slightly over extended laterals to the east.

The proposed works are to reduce to suitable growth points two selected limbs on East side at 3.5 and 4 metres, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown.

Sycamore tree T2 of group G1
The Sycamore tree T2 of group G1 is located near the Northeast corner of the front garden of 117 Littlehampton Road. The tree has a slightly curved single stem to 8 metres where it divides into two, with both stems dividing again several times to the top. The main stem has a cluster of limbs at 1.2 metres with the first significant sized limbs emerging from 4 metres. The main crown is dense and widespread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce three selected limbs on the eastern side by up to 2.5 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and to balance 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:21/03/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 24.03.2025