Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 27/03/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/0126/24**
Address	**Greenwood Crockhurst Hill Worthing West Sussex BN13 3EE**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.1 of 2016 to reduce radial spread to North by up to 1.5 metres one Holm Oak tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 07/02/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Holm Oak located near the Northeast corner of the front garden, adjacent to the pavement of Crockhurst Hill. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Salvington Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread to North one Holm Oak tree T1.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to The Worthing Society, who did not respond.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1997: The Salvington Conservation Area XVI designated on 29th April 1997.

2016: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres one Holm Oak tree T1, to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre one Fir tree T2, and to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre one Hornbeam tree T3 in the Salvington Conservation Area.

2016: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 16 of 2016 confirmed on 04/07/2016.

2018: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce height by up to 3 metres and radial spread by 2 metres on one Hawthorn (T1) and two Hornbeam trees (T2 and T3). Remove low limb from one Sycamore (T4) overhanging A27. Reduce height by up to 1.5 metres and radial spread by 0.5 metre one Yew tree (T5) and one Holly tree (T6) in the Salvington Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment
The tree is a large mature evergreen Oak, growing in the front garden adjacent to the boundary with the rear garden of 17 Cleveland Close, the applicants. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 5 metres, where it divides into 3 to 4 main upright stems which each divide several times to the top. A large secondary emerges from 1 metre to the West which angles outward. The first significant limbs emerge from 4 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended smaller tertiary branches.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to North by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow clearance to the recently constructed garden building in the rear garden of 17 Cleveland Close. The works appear to have been slightly over estimated and have been changed by conditions.

These amended 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 Salvington Conservation Area.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans

2. The proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to reduction in radial spread of up to 1 metre 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: 27/03/2024

Authorised by: Gary Peck Date: 27 March 2024