Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 05/06/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0491/25**
Address	**4 Church Walk Worthing West Sussex BN11 2LH**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres three Beech trees of group G1.**

Date of site visit: 15/05/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a group of three Beech trees Group G1, in the rear garden growing along the boundary between 4 and 6 Church Walk. The trees are a part of the local landscape and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown 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

1985: The property is included within Conservation Area VII (Farncombe Road) designated by the Council on 7th November 1985, pursuant to Section 277 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971. The above area was amended by the Council on 29TH April 1997.

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 38 of 2003 confirmed on 10/12/2003.

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2003 to reduce radial spread by up to 2.5 metres on one Beech tree T4, reduce crown height by up to 2.5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres on three Beech trees of group G1

2022: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres two Beech trees, to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres one Acer tree, and to reduce radial spread to north by up to 0.5 metres one Cherry Plum in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

2025: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres one Cherry Tree T3 and Beech trees T1 & T2, reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, Acer T4, and to reduce crown height 1 metre, and trim sides up to 0.5 metres Beech trees of hedge B3 in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The three Beech of group G1 are medium to large sized trees that are part of an established group growing along the eastern boundary of the rear garden. The trees are visible from the road, and make a contribution to the character and visual amenity of the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

The trees are all single stemmed to 2 to 3 metres, and growing as a cohesive group. The north and south trees have larger diameter stems with the central tree being slightly more slender stemmed. The combined crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and allow more light and air to pass the combined 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 Farncombe Road Conservation 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: 05/06/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 06/06/2025