

Application Number **AWDM/0531/26**

Address **The Croft 3 Southdown Road Southwick West Sussex BN42 4FT**

Proposal **Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre Plum T1 and Cherry T3 and reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 0.5 metre one Malus T2, in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 21/05/26

Neighbours checked: Y

Additional neighbour notifications: N

Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area): Y

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to three small to medium sized mature trees, two located in the rear grounds and one close to the low boundary wall adjacent to the pavement of Southdown Road. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Plum T1 Malus T2, and one Cherry T3.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to Adur Conservation Area Advice Group who did not respond.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

Planning Assessment

The trees are small matures; a Plum T1 and a Malus T2 growing in the rear grounds and a somewhat gnarled Cherry T3 in the front grounds close to the boundary with Southdown Road. The trees have varying prominence to the area. The trees are:

Plum T1

The Plum tree T1 is located near the northwest corner of the rear lawn, close to the communal drying area. The tree has two main stems from a common source above ground level, which appears to be an elongated stem or surface root. The larger of the two stems persists to 1.8 metres with the secondary stem dividing at 1 metre. The main crown is dense with many smaller “water shoots” and wide spread.

Malus T2

This tree is located southeast of T1 closer to the driveway and parking area. The tree has a single stem to 1.4 metres, where it divides into two tightly forked secondary stems that begin to separate

from 2.2 metres. The first limbs are wide spread and emerge from 1 to 1.2 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with several twisted and rubbing limbs.

The proposed works for the Plum T1 and Cherry T3 are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees, and allow more light and air to pass around their crowns.

Cherry T3

The Cherry tree T3 has a single gnarled stem that terminates at 4 metres, with two large old limbs that extend to the northeast. The older horizontal limbs both have blown and broken bark, but support younger healthier limbs and stems. The main crown is sparse, one sided with damage to the main stem.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 0.5 metre. The work is to contain the size and spread of the tree and 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 Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 25/06/2026

Authorised by: PB Date: 25 June 2026