Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 25/01/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/1507/23**
Address	**Reigate Court Reigate Road Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.5 of 1994 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres one Purple Maple tree T4.**

Date of site visit: 06/12/23

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 Purple Maple located near the Northeast corner of the front grounds adjacent to the garage compound Road. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the 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

1993: Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 1993 - Not confirmed

1994: Tree Preservation Order No. 5 of 1994 confirmed by Worthing Borough Council on 6th September 1994

1996: Consent refused 11th November 1996 to crown reduce by 30% Purple Norway Maple, T4 under TPO 5/1994 (WB/96/0704/T)

2001: Consent granted 2nd April 2001 to remove lowest branches north side of Flowering Crab T1; minor thinning of Cherry Plum T3; and dead wood the Purple Norway Maple T4 under TPO 5/1994 (WB/01/00179/T)

2002: Consent granted 13th March 2002 to crown reduce Flowering Crab T1 and Cherry Plum T3, crown lift Flowering Cherry T2 and remove dead wood on Purple Norway Maple T4 under TPO 5/1994 (WB/02/00126/T)

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 5 of 1994 to dead wood and reduce crown by 30 cm on one Flowering Crab (T1) fronting Elm Grove and to reduce the

radial crown spread from 4 metres to 3 metres and clean crown of one Purple Norway Maple (T4) on eastern boundary

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Maple growing in the front grounds adjacent to the rear garage compound and close to the neighbouring property of Tower House 5 Reigate Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 3 metres, where it then divides into several large main stems that each mostly persist to 8 to 10 metres and form a broad array. The first laterals emerge from 4 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some deadwood and slightly damaged limbs.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, allow clearance to nearby buildings and allow more light and air to pass 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: 25/01/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 25.01.2024