Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 15/11/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1428/23**
Address	**1 Tarring Gate South Street Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.11 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, and reduce selected west limb by up to 4 to 5 metres one Holm Oak tree T5.**

Date of site visit: 25/10/23

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 Holm Oak located near the centre of the southwest corner of the grounds of the complex of flats Tarring Gate. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread and reduce one selected west limb.

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

1968: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 1 of 1968 confirmed on 25/03/1968.

1995: Crown lift over footpath to 2.5 metres and back end upper outer branches over road to give a clearance above the road of 5 metres, one Holm Oak (T5) subject to Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.1 of 1968.

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 11 of 2003 confirmed on 10/04/2003.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 11 of 2003 to reduce large extended limbs over highways by 3-4m in length of Holm Oak (T5).

Planning Assessment

The application refers to a large mature Holm Oak located near the centre of the southwest corner of the grounds of the complex of flats Tarring Gate. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

The tree has two large diameter stems from ground level: the southwest stem divides at 2 metres, into two large stems that are both angled outward, and each support several long over extended

secondarys. The north east stem is larger in diameter, and mostly dead or decaying. The stem persists to 7 metres, with some large overgrown epicormic and basal growth. The main crown is dense and very wide spread with some low hanging limbs.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, and reduce one selected west limb by up to 4 to 5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and to rebalance the crown, where it overhangs the carriageway.

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: 15/11/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 15/11/23