Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 13/03/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0029/25**
Address	**10 Longlands Spinney Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NU**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 2003 to reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre two Irish Yew trees of group G12.**

Date of site visit: 13/02/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large Yew trees in the rear garden where they are prominent and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread both Irish Yew trees of group G12.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 37 of 2003 confirmed on 22/01/2004.

2012: Removal of 4 no. low branches on north and north west of main stem of Yew tree (within G.12 of Tree Preservation Order No. 37 of 2003) to facilitate the building of an extension to the east elevation of no. 11.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 2003 to reduce lower south side lateral to a suitable point close to the main bole, reduce radial spread to allow up to 2 metres clearance to main building one Silver Birch tree of group G1, and to crown lift up to 6 metres one Beech tree of group G10.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 37 of 2003 to reduce height by 3m to leave finished height of approx 4.5m to Irish Yew (T3), reduce height by 3m to leave finished height of approx 4.5m to Irish Yew (T4), both trees within Group G12. Remove two lowest lateral branches to the west side of (T4) to clear neighbour's drying area and to stop fouling the boundary fence.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 4 metres crown lift up to 5 metres, crown thin 30% one Beech tree T9, reduce crown height by up to 3 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres seven Beech and one Sycamore of group G10, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres two Silver Birch of group G9.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large mature Irish Yews, on the western side of the rear garden. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The two Yew trees are part of group G12 which consists of 20 Irish Yew trees in a fragmented line along the rear gardens of 10 to 16 Longlands Spinney. The trees are located in the north west corner of the rear garden close to the main building. Both trees have the typical compound / multi-stems associated with the Irish Yew, that each begin to separate at 2.5 to 3 metres, with the crowns broadening at 7 to 8 metres. The main crowns are dense and wide spread with some slightly open areas in the centre.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre two Irish Yew trees of group G12. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and to maintain their shape.

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 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:13/03/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 13/03/2025