Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 11/04/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0189/24**
Address	**2 Kinfauns Drive Worthing West Sussex BN13 3BL**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 98 of 2001 to remove lowest limbs Ash tree T1 of group G2, reduce radial spread to allow clearance of 2 metres Holly T2 of group G1, and to reduce radial spread to South by up to 2 to 2.5 metres two Holly and two Hornbeam of group G2.**

Date of site visit: 06/03/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one mature Ash and five smaller slightly younger trees all of the linear group G2, that extends from the frontage of the neighbouring property of 1 Kinfauns Drive, in the East to past the boundary of the rear garden to the East. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to remove the lowest limbs Ash tree T1, reduce radial spread of Holly T2 and to reduce radial spread to South two Holly and two Hornbeam.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 98 of 2001 confirmed on 05/12/2001

2010: Application to fell one Hornbeam and one Holly (within Group G2) and to reduce crown spread towards No. 1 Kinfauns Drive of 4 Holly, 3 Ash and 2 Hornbeam (Part of Group G2) and crown lift to 3 metres one English Oak and one Hornbeam in Group G4 adjacent to rear boundary.

2012: Application to crown lift 1 Ash in front garden to 2.5 metres, to reduce crown of 1 Hornbeam on south side of property to 4 metres adjacent to the building and to crown lift 1 Beech at 12 Furze Close to achieve a ground clearance of approximately 4 metres on south-west side.

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 98 of 2001 to crown lift up to 5 metres one Sweet Chestnut tree and to crown lift up to 5 metres on Southside and crown lift to clear buildings by up to 2 metres on North side of one Ash tree of group G2.

Planning Assessment

The trees are a large mature Ash and a slightly smaller Holly in the front garden, and four smaller younger trees in the rear garden, two between the properties of 1 and 2 Kinfauns Drive, and two along the common boundary. The trees are mostly prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are:

Ash T1 of group G2
This tree is the most prominent of the group and located at it's Eastern end close to the pavement of Kinfauns Drive. The tree has a single stem to 2 metres,where it then divides into four slender mostly upright stems that each persist to 8 to 9 metres. The Southwest stem twists and angles out to the North, The first limbs emerge from 2 to 3 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to crown lift the tree, by removing the first five lowest branches. The works are to allow more light and air to pass beneath the crown.

Holly T2 of group G2
The Holly tree T2 is the next inline along the group of G2, growing close to the taller Ash T1. The tree has three main stems from ground level that are each clear to 3.75 metres. The East stem curves has a secondary at 4 metres with both stems mostly persisting to the top. The central stem terminates at 4 metres, where previously lopped or damaged, with some small stems forming the re-growth. The stem on the tree's Western side has some damage and decay. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to allow clearance of 2 metres to the adjacent property.

Holly x2 and Hornbeam x2 of group G2
These four trees are smaller younger trees growing on raised ground in the rear garden with a Holly being closest to the building of 1 Kinfauns Drive and the other Holly and the Hornbeams being adjacent to the rear garden. The trees have slender stems that are mostly clear to 3 to 4 metres. The main crowns dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals to the South.

The proposed works for the two Hollys and two Hornbeam of group G2 are to reduce radial spread to South by up to 2 to 2.5 metres two Holly and two Hornbeam of group G2. The works are to contain the spread of the crowns, abate possible future nuisance and allow more light and air to pass beneath the crowns.

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: 11/04/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 11.04.2024