Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 05/01/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/1416/23**
Address	**Flat 1 Cedar House Cissbury Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 ODW**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 2002 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres one Cherry tree T2.**

Date of site visit: 28/11/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single tree in the south-western part of the grounds of Cedar House. The tree is one of three protected trees that contribute to the area by reducing the impact of the housing blocks of Cedar House and Salvington Court.

Consent is sought to reduce the height and spread of the crown of the medium sized over mature Cherry tree T2.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2002: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 21 of 2002 confirmed on 30/09/2002.

2010: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 21 of 2002 to reduce and reshape by 25%, crown thin by 10%, crown lift to 2.5m and dead wood cherry tree (T2); and to prune back lateral branches on west side by approx. 1m on Silver Birch tree (T3).

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 21 of 2002 to complete works to reduce spread by up to 1-1.5 m and reduce height by 1-1.5m of Cherry Tree (T2) in south-west part of grounds.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 2002 to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre and reduce crown height by up to one metre on one Cherry tree T2.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 2002 to reduce in height and radius by up to 1m one Flowering Cherry tree (T2).

2021: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 2002 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre Cherry tree T2

Planning Assessment

The Cherry tree T2 the subject of the application is part of an isolated group of protected trees in the area. The tree is within the open plan grounds of Cedar House, and helps to reduce the impact of the building on the surrounding area.

The tree has a single trunk that breaks into an established wide spreading crown at around 2 -2.5 metres. The tree has had some very large pruning wounds from works carried prior to the Tree Preservation Order. There are also some cavities and areas of damage to the trunk of the tree.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and to continue with the established management regime.

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: 05/01/2024

Authorised by: PB Date: 5/1/24