+Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; /10/13**

Application Number ***AWDM/1091/13***

Site Address; ***Romans Residential Home 1 Roman Road Southwick***

Proposal ***Application for consent under Adur District Council Tree Preservation Order 13.53/1/91 (SW) to reduce radial spread of crown on east and west aspects by up to 2 metres, reduce radial spread of crown on south aspect by up to 3 metres, crown thin by up to 10% and reduce height by up to 3 metres one Beech tree (T1). Remove dead wood and broken limbs from two Holm Oak trees (T7 and T9) Crown lift over car park up to 3 metres one Holm Oak (T1) Crown lift up to 3 metres and remove deadwood one Cherry Plum (T4) and to reduce radial spread of crown by up to 0.5 metres, and crown reduce up to 2 metres one Holly tree (T9).***

Date of site visit:

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application relates to 6 protected trees within the site, which have been numbered and highlighted in red on the submitted plan from the applicant. The proposal is to carry out the following tree works:

Ref	Species	Location on Site	Proposed works
T1	Holm Oak	Southern boundary	Crown lift up to 3 metres
T5	Cherry Plum	Southern boundary	Remove deadwood and crown lift up to 3 metres
T9	Holly	Western boundary	Reduce radial Spread by up to 0.5 metre reduce height up to 2 m
T11	Beech	Centre of grounds	Crown in radial spread by 2 – 3 metres, crown thin up to 10% and reduce height by up to 3 metres.
T17	Holm Oak	Southern boundary	Remove deadwood
T19	Holm Oak	Southern boundary	Remove damaged limbs

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

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was designated in June 1976

1991: Adur Tree Preservation order Number Tpo 13.53/1/91 (SW) confirmed on 21/11/1991.

1996: Crown reduction of Beech, Holy, Prunus and Holm Oak trees Subject To Tpo 13.53/1/91 (SW) Application Permitted

2002: Works to Beech, Holly, Prunus, And Holm Oak trees subject to Tpo 13.53/1/91 (SW) Application Permitted

2009: Reduction of limbs (on north and east sides) of Beech tree (subject to TPO 13/53/1/91/SW) Application Permitted

Planning Assessment

Holm Oak tree T1 is the largest and most prominent tree on the site standing at around 17 metres tall. This tree is very much a part of the area, and blends in with the street trees of a similar size and age. The application is to crown lift up to 3 metres to give adequate clearance in the car park area of the Rest Home. This work is standard maintenance and will not affect the visual amenity of the tree.

The second most prominent tree on the site is the Common Beech T11. This tree is a stand alone specimen tree, growing close to the centre of the complex of buildings, on a lawned area. The tree is approximately 14 metres tall with a spreading crown that is widest at the base. The tree has sparse green leaf cover toward the top of the crown. The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 2-3 metres, to clear the main building, and reduce in height by up to 3 metres, inline with previous permitted works.

The two Holm Oak trees T7 and T9 are 10 to 12 metres tall trees are medium sized trees growing in the Southern border adjacent to the junction of Roman Road and Roman Way. T17 has been hit by a vehicle causing minor damage to the bark and trunk. Both trees have around 5% deadwood some of which are larger branches. Proposed works are the removal of dead and damaged branches.

The Holly tree T9 is a smaller tree on the Eastern boundary, this tree is visible from the road and contributes to the amenity of the area. The request is to reduce radial spread by up to 0.5 metres and reduce height by up to 2 metres so as to reshape the form of the tree which has become out grown.

The Cherry plum T5 is part of a mixed border of trees and shrubs along the Southern boundary. The works to this tree are minimal – crown lift to clear public pavement.

The proposed works to these six protected trees are, in my opinion relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the trees and would not significantly or adversely affect the appearance, or the amenity value of the trees or the character of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application, only, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA, 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: 31/10/2013

Authorised by: PD Date: 31.10.13