

Application Number **AWDM/0666/26**

Address **20 Vicarage Fields Worthing West Sussex BN13 3SF**

Proposal **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.20 of 2001 to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre and crown thin 10% Deodar tree T16, and to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 6 metres, Holm Oak trees of group G3.**

Date of site visit: 09/07/26

Neighbours checked: Y

Additional neighbour notifications: N

Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area): N

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two mature Holm Oak trees, which are part of group G3 that runs along the rear gardens West boundaries of 15 to 23 Vicarage Fields. and a single large mature Deodar in the northeast of the front garden. 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 reduce radial spread and crown thin the Deodar tree T16, and to reduce radial spread and crown lift Holm Oak trees of group G3.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 20 of 2001 confirmed on 12/06/2001.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to reduce spread, east side, by 1.5 metres and clean out two Holm Oak (part of group G3).

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20/2001 to crown lift to 5 metres, remove broken limb, crown thin and clean out, and minor reduction to 'tidy up' crowns of 5 Holm Oak in rear garden (Part of Group G3)

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to crown lift to 5 metres, thin by 20% and minor reduction (to improve shape) to five Holm Oak trees in rear garden (Part of Group G3)

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to crown lift to 5 metres and to remove overhanging branches over 16 and 17 Bramble Close on two Holm Oak trees in rear garden (Part of Group G3)

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to crown reduce by up to 2 metres two Holm Oak trees (part of group G3). Refused.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.20 of 2001 to reduce radial spread by up to 1-1.5 metres and crown thin up to 10-15% two Holm Oak trees of group G3.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.20 of 2001 to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre, and crown lift up to 5 metres, one Deodar T16.

Planning Assessment

The trees are a large mature Deodar growing in the front garden adjacent to the Pavement of Vicarage Fields, and two Holm Oak in the rear garden close to the western boundary with properties in Bramble Close. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The trees are:

Deodar tree T16

This tree has a single stem that persists to the top of the high crown. The first limbs emerge from 4 metres and are evenly spaced in a radial pattern for most of the crown. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some of the lower laterals supporting the lower hanging foliage.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre and crown thin 10%. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

Holm Oak trees of group G3

Both Holm Oak trees have been crown lifted several times which has created tall slender trees with combined high crowns. The eastern tree T1 is single stemmed to 6-7 metres, where the tree has been previously topped or damaged. The multiple stems at this point are dense and wide spreading. The west tree T2 is twin stemmed from 1 metre, each stem being clear to 7 metres where they have both been topped. The re-growth consists of fewer stems, but stems of a wider diameter. The main crowns are combined, dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 6 metres, Holm Oak trees of group G3. The works are to contain the spread of the trees, allow access 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: 30/07/2026

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 30.07.2026