Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 12/12/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/1039/25**
Address	**18 Second Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NX**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.36 of 2003 to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, and reduce radial spread by 1 metre Sycamore tree T21, reduce crown height by up to 2 metres Douglas Fir T1 (North) and Douglas Fir T2 (South) both of group G3.**

Date of site visit: 28/10/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to three trees: two tall mature Douglas Fir Trees located along the eastern border between the back gardens of 18 Second Avenue, and 5 Third Avenue, and one Sycamore tree near the centre of the Northern boundary 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 crown height and reduce radial spread Sycamore tree T21, and reduce crown height Douglas Fir T1 and T2 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

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 36 of 2003 confirmed on 27/11/2003.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.36 of 2003 to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, two Douglas Fir trees of group G3

Planning Assessment
The trees are three large matures, two Douglas Fir in the rear garden adjacent to the boundary with properties in Third Avenue, and a Sycamore growing in the front garden. The trees are prominent to the area, provide a backdrop to the nearby properties and can be seen from many views.

The trees are;

<u>Douglas Fir T1 of group G3</u>
This tree is to the north of the two has a slightly larger diameter single stem which is curved to 7metres. The first laterals emerge at 2 metres. At 4 metres a secondary stem has been lost or removed and the main crown begins to break, which is fuller and wider spread than T2.

Douglas Fir T2 of group G3
This tree is to the south of the two and has a straight single stem that persists to within 2 metres of the top. The first significant sized limbs emerge from 10 metres. The main crown is high, becoming denser toward the top, with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works for both trees are to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size of the trees and allow more light and air to pass over their crowns.

Sycamore T21
This tree is located near the centre of the northern boundary of the front garden, slightly to the south of the boundary hedge. The tree has a single stem to 7 metres, where it then divides into several stems, with some tall ascending limbs from 2 metres, that combine to form a wide array. The main crown is dense and wide spread with a domed top.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, and reduce radial spread by 1 metre. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown.

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: 12/12/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 12/12/2025