Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 18/10/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1165/23**
Address	**Woodsdale Court Dominion Road Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.26 of 2003 to reduce to previous points (reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres) one Holm Oak tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 12/10/233

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Holm Oak tree in the Southeast corner of the parking area within the Woodsdale Court grounds. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread to previous points.

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

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 26 of 2003 confirmed on 03/12/03.

2003: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26/2003 to crown lift to 4.5 metres, one Holm Oak (T1); removal of 3 lowest limbs overhanging property to the east, together with a minor reduction by up to 1 metre of the remaining overhanging limbs.

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26 of 2003 to reduce crown spread by 1.5 metres and crown lift to 5 metres, one Holm Oak (T1)

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26 of 2003 to crown lift to 4 metres, crown thin by 15%, reduce branches toward roof of no. 204 Dominion Road and extreme branches by up to 1 metre one Tree of Heaven and to crown lift to 3 metres over driveway and 2 metres on remainder, crown thin by 10% and reduce lower branches by up to ½ a metre one Walnut (within Group G1).

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26 of 2003 to crown lift up to 5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres 1 Holm Oak T1.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.26 of 2003 to reduce radial spread to allow clearance to building of up to 2.5 metres, on two Corsican Pine trees T2 and T3.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26 of 2003 to crown lift to 6m by removing low branches to 1no. Holm Oak tree T1.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 26 of 2003 to reduce 3no. Lombardy Poplar trees in height by 4-5 metres G1; Crown thin by 20 per cent, remove dead wood to 2no. Corsican Pine trees T3 and T4.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Holm Oak growing in the rear grounds adjacent to the boundaries with properties in Russell Close and Dominion Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from most roads in the area.

The tree has a large diameter compound stem to 2 metres, where the 3 to 4 main stems begin to separate. Some of the main stems divide again at 5 to 7 metres with most of the scaffold stems persisting to within 4 to 5 metres of the top, and the smaller outer secondary stems arching outward. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres (to previous points). The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown. The works appear to be slightly over estimated and have been changed by conditions.

These amended 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;

   i Reduction in crown height of up to 3 to 4 metres, 4 metres on the tallest most protruding stems

   ii Reduction in radial spread of up to 2 to 3 metres, 3 metres on the longest most protruding limbs

   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: 18/10/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 18/10/23