Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 23/05/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0262/24**
Address	**Broomhill Mill Lane Worthing West Sussex BN13 3DH**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.11 of 1991 to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and crown lift up to 4 metres one Sycamore tree T2.**

Date of site visit: N/a

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 Sycamore located near the centre of the Eastern boundary adjacent to the driveway access from Mill Lane. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread and to crown lift the tree.

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

Consultations:

South Downs National Park Authority: No comment.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1991: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 11 of 1991 confirmed on 06/12/1991.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a small large mature Sycamore growing in the grass area of the front garden adjacent to the entrance from Mill Lane. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Sycamore T2 has a large diameter single stem, with mature bark (patchy with some loose plates) that persists to 6 metres, where it begins to divide, each stem dividing again several times to the top. The main upper limbs and stems form a broad dome shaped crown. The first laterals emerge from 2 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some arched over lower hanging laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and crown lift up to 4 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, and to allow access and more light and air to pass beneath the crown.

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: 23/05/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 23.05.2024