Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 11/12/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/1254/24**
Address	**1 Cleveland Copse Worthing West Sussex BN13 2JX**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.9 of 1999 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres, Sycamore tree T1 of group G2 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, Holm Oak T6.**

Date of site visit: n/a

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two mature trees: A Sycamore tree to the southern side close to the junction of Cleveland Copse and Cleveland Close, and a larger Holm Oak tree to the Northwest adjacent to the Northern end of Cleveland Close. The development was built around the existing trees on site, placing the linear group of trees G2 in the side garden to the West of the dwelling, and the Holm Oak T6 to the North in the rear garden. The trees are part of an established group, which are 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 radial spread Sycamore tree T1 of group G2 and to reduce crown height and radial spread Holm Oak T6.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1988: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 3 of 1988 confirmed on 24/05/1988.

1999: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 9 of 1999 confirmed on 14/01/2000.

2000: Application under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9/1999 to crown lift one Holm Oak (T7) up to four metres above ground level uniformly

2004: Application to fell one Sycamore tree and to dead wood, tidy up two Arizona Cypress (all within Group G2); crown lift and modest reduction of one Holm Oak (T6); and to crown lift, dead wood, shape and rebalance one Cupressus Macrocarpa (TPO 3/1988 refers). Split Decision Refused; Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9/1999 to fell one Sycamore tree and one Arizona Cypress.

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9 of 1999 to crown lift three Cypress trees and one Sycamore tree by approximately 2m on the western side. By the

removal of the lower secondary branches to the base and/or main branches respectively (both Group G2).

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9 of 1999 to crown lift three Cypress trees and one Sycamore tree by approximately 2m on the western side. By the removal of the lower secondary branches to the base and/or main branches respectively (both Group G2).

2011: Application to crown lift to 3 metres one Sycamore and crown lift to 6 metres on west side and to 3.5 metres on east side on three Arizona Blue Cypress (Cupressus glabra) (Part of Group G2) and to crown reduce spread of one Holm Oak (T6) by up to 2m on southern side, towards the property. Split Decision Refused: Application to remove large ascending limb on west side on one Sycamore (part of Group G2) and to crown reduce one Holm Oak (T6) by 25%; and consent to fell one Monterey Cypress (T7 under TPO 3/1988)

2012: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9 of 1999 to reduce height and crown spread and thin the crown of one Sycamore tree (Part of Group G2) on western boundary and to crown lift by 2 metres to the north from over the boundary fence on one Holm Oak (T7) on northern boundary adjacent to Cleveland Close.

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.3 of 1988 to fell one Monterey Cypress tree T7, Reduce radial spread by up to 1 metre of one Holm Oak tree T1, and to dead wood three Arizona Cypress trees T4, T5 and T6.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.9 of 1999 to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres, and crown thin 15% one tree Holm Oak tree T12, and reduce radial spread by 1.5 to 2 metres, an, crown thin 15% one Sycamore tree of group G2.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 3 of 1988 to remove to ground level one Monterey Cypress tree (T7) and replace with Birch tree.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 3 of 1988 to reduce radial spread and height by up to 3m and crown thin up to 15% to one Monterey Cypress (T7).

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9 of 1999 to reduce radial spread and height by up to 1.5m and crown thin up to 15% one Acer within Group G2.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.9 of 1999 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metre and crown thin up to 15% on one Holm Oak (T6)

2021: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 3 of 1988 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres one Sycamore S1 of G2, and to fell and replace one Arizona Cypress A1 of G2.

2024: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.3 of 1988 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 metres, and remove damaged limb to East one Monterrey Cypress T7.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large matures growing in the rear and side gardens adjacent. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

Sycamore tree T1 of group G2
The tree is a medium sized mature growing in the side garden where it is clearly visible from Cleveland Close. The Sycamore tree of Group G2 is single stemmed to 2 metre where it then divides into two main stems: the western stem angles outward correcting at 4 metres, and persists to the top of the crown. The east stem divides again at 2.5 metres forming a tight cluster of slender stems that each divide several times. The lateral spread of the tree is formed by secondary smaller lateral branches forming a dense wide spreading crown.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, and maintain a clearance to the main building.

Holm Oak tree T6
The Holm Oak tree T6 is a medium sized mature growing in the rear garden near the fence line with Cleveland Close. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views. The tree has a single stem to 3 metres, where it then divides in to two with a strong “Y” shaped union. The two stems mostly persist and support a dense wide slightly rounded crown.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass around 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:11/12/2024

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 11/12/2024