Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 21/03/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0019/25**
Address	**The Courtyard 24 to 26 Offington Lane Worthing West Sussex BN14 9RT**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.40 of 1990 to crown lift up to 7 metres Holm Oak T13 and Corsican Pine T14.**

Date of site visit: 28/01/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large mature trees located near the boundary with Offington Lane on the frontage to 33 to 38 The Courtyard. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to crown lift Holm Oak T13 and Corsican Pine T14

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

1990: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 40 of 1990 confirmed on 18th March 1991

2000: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.40/1990 to crown lift to three metres, one Holm Oak (T13) and remove dead wood from one Corsican Pine (T14).

2012: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 40 of 1990 to crown lift to 5 metres, crown thin by 15% and remove dead wood, rubbing and diseased branches on one Holm Oak tree (T13) and to crown lift to 5 metres and remove dead, rubbing and diseased branches on one Pine tree (T14)

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large, tall matures: one Holm Oak close to the entrance from Offington Lane, and a Corsican Pine, further south near the Southwest corner. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

<u>Holm Oak T13</u>
This tree has a single stem to 3 metres, where it divides into three main upright stems, and some smaller branches and epicormic growth emerges. The first significant limbs emerge from 5 to 6

metres and support some of the lower hanging tertiary branches. The main crown is dense and widespread with some slightly over extended laterals.

Corsican Pine T14
The Corsican Pine tree has a straight single stem that persists to 8 metres, where it divides into two stems, a mostly upright central stem that persists to within 2 to 3 metres of the top and an angled outward Northwest stem that divides forming a slightly lower spire. The first limbs emerge from 8 to 9 metres. The main crown is moderately widespread, dense with a flat top, and some lower hanging laterals.

The proposed works for both trees are to crown lift up to 7 metres. The works are to allow access and allow 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 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:21/03/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 24.03.2025