Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 23/01/2026**

Application Number	**AWDM/1224/25**
Address	**18 Heather Lane Worthing West Sussex BN13 3BU**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.7 of 1987 to reduce first limb from ground level by up to 2.5 metres, and remove second limb, Pine tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 14/01/26

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Pine tree located close to the Southwest corner of the front garden. 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 the first limb from ground level by up to 2.5 metres, and remove the second limb.

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

1987: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 7 of 1987 confirmed on 21/02/89.

2003: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 7 of 1987 to prune two Pine trees in front garden to give a clearance of 1m to telephone lines and to remove dead wood (T1 and part of Group G1 respectively); and to reduce by 1 - 2 metres the long branch on one English Oak tree (Part of Group G1) overhanging No. 20 Heather Lane

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.7 of 1987 to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 to 2 metres, reduce lowest Southwest lateral by up to 3.5 metres, and to crown thin by up to 15% one Pine tree of group G1, and to reduce forked Southwest lateral by up to 2-3 metres on one Oak tree of group G1.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large tall mature Pine growing in the front garden adjacent to the unmade Road of Heather Lane, and the boundary with number 20. The tree is a prominent part of the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 4 metres where it then divides into three large main stems, that each persist to 8 to 10 metres before dividing again. The tree has two secondary stems or large limbs that emerge from the south at 2.25 metres and 3.75 metres and both extend widely to the south over the road. The first stem angles upward with the second limb being lower. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce the first limb from ground level by up to 2.5 metres, and to remove the second limb back to near its source at a suitable point. The works are to reduce the weight and spread of the first limb from ground level and to allow access 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: 23/01/2026

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 23/01/2026