Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 11/06/15**

Application Number	**AWDM/0807/15**
Address	**47 Southwick Street Southwick BN42 4TH**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and to crown lift up to 4 metres two Holm Oak trees in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 05/06/15

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large mature Holm Oak trees on the southern boundary of the front garden of 47 Southwick Street. The trees are part of an established group of trees, which are prominent in the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to crown lift the trees by up to 4 metres, and to reduce the radial spread by up to 2 metres.

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

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large mature Holm Oak trees growing in the front garden adjacent to the boundary between 47 and 45 Southwick Street. The trees are part of an established number of trees along Southwick Street that make a significant contribution to the sylvan character of this part of the Southwick Conservation Area.

The trees are;

<u>Holm Oak T1</u>
This is the tree closest to Southwick Street, near the southeast corner of the front garden of 47 Southwick Street. The tree is single stemmed to 1.8 metres where it then divides into twin stems. The east stem divides again at 4 metres, into an array of long slender stems that form the eastern side of the main crown. The stems have most of their leaves at the ends of the limbs with only minimal leaf

cover deeper into the crown. The tree has no central leader, with a broadly domed shape to the crown that intertwines with the Holm Oak tree T2.

Holm Oak T2
Single stemmed to 2 metres, with multiple stems from this point. The main crown has numerous upright slender stems that have foliage deep into the crown. The eastside of the tree has minimal foliage, with the Holm Oak T1 providing the leaf cover. Due to the upright habit of this tree it is considered that there is an important cohesion between the two trees that have a shared crown.

The proposed works are to crown lift up to 4 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, to allow clear access beneath the crowns of the trees and contain their size and spread. The works are to the combined crowns, and are not to separate the two trees. These works would be preferably carried out to entire combined crown, although works from just the southern side (45 Southwick Street) would be acceptable.

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 their contribution to the character of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application, only, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA, 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: 11/06/2015

Authorised by: PD Date: 6.7.15