Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date: 22/11/17**

Application Number	**AWDM/1425/17**
Address	**Hope Cottages The Green Southwick**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Sycamore tree on the southern boundary to the rear of Hope Cottages within Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 06/10/17

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium mature Sycamore tree growing in the southeast corner of the rear grounds of Hope Cottages Southwick. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to fell the tree.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: Ten representations received, all in objection.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas 'The Green and Church Lane' area covered all buildings surrounding The Green.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a medium sized mature growing on raised ground to the southeast of the rear grounds of the Adur Homes property Hope Cottages. The tree is significant to the area, and provides some screening between properties.

The tree has a single stem to an initial historic pollard at 3 metres. From 3 metres the tree has 3 to 4 main stems, with one central upright stem. All stems persist to 4 to 4.5 metres, where the tree was previously reduced/pollarded. The main crown is formed of an array of secondary limbs and stems that make a slightly out grown ball shape to the tree.

The proposed works are to fell the tree, as applied for by the adjacent residents rather than the tree owners / property managers; Adur Homes.

Recommendation

REFUSE for the reason(s):-

1. The tree is a prominent and established feature, which contributes positively to local character and landscape of the Southwick Conservation Area and its removal would be detrimental to these qualities. There is no arboricultural or other acceptable reason provided which would justify the loss of these this tree.

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 22/11/2017

Authorised by: PB Date: 23/11/2017