

**Application Number**                      **AWDM/1528/26**

**Address**                                **Belsize House 2 Belsize Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4RG**

**Proposal**                              **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No11 of 1989 to crown lift up to 5 metres, and allow clearance to street light, two Laurel trees T1 and T2.**

**Date of site visit:** 09/02/26

**Neighbours checked:** Y

**Additional neighbour notifications:** N

**Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area):** Y

### **Proposal, Site and Surroundings**

The application refers to two small to medium sized mature Laurel trees located on the western boundary of Belsize House adjacent to the boundary wall, close to the pavement of Belsize Road. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Heene Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to crown lift and allow clearance to street light.

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

**Consultations:** Letter sent to The Worthing Society, who did not respond.

**Representations:** None received.

### **Relevant Planning History**

1985: The property is included within Conservation Area VI (Heene), designated by the Council on 31st January 1985.

1989: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 11 of 1989 confirmed on 06/11/1989.

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 11 of 1989 to crown reduce by 2m two Lime trees (T3 and T4), to pollard to approximately 8 metres two Sycamores (T5 and T6) and to reduce by 2 metres one Flowering Cherry (T7) along southern perimeter of property. Refused.

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 11 of 1989 to reduce crown spread of Lime tree T3 to leave a total new diameter crown spread of 8 metres, and remove epicormic growth; Lime tree T4 reduce spread on north side by 2 metres towards Belsize House and reduce spread on south side to give 1m clearance to adjacent building; reduce radial spread of the two Sycamores T5 and T6 to leave a new radial crown spread of 6 - 7 metres and reduce spread on south side to clear adjacent buildings by 1 - 2 metres; and reduce Cherry T7 by 2 metres.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.11 of 1989 to reduce radial spread by 2 metres, and crown lift up to 5 metres two Lime trees T3 and T4.

## Planning Assessment

The trees are two small to medium mature forms of Laurel growing in the front garden adjacent to the public pavement, and close to a Street Lamp. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

### Portugal laurel (Prunus lusitanica) T1

This tree is located close to the northwest corner of the front garden and has been slightly dominated by the faster growing and spread Bay tree T2. The Portugal laurel (Prunus lusitanica) has smaller darker leaves than the more common Bay (Laurus nobilis). The tree has multiple stems from ground level and several basal growths that have extended the original plant. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

### Bay Laurel (Laurus nobilis) T2

The Bay tree T2 is located to the Southwest of the front garden and closer to the Street Lamp. This tree has many stems from ground level, that have spread wider than T1. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some over extended laterals.

The proposed works for both the Portugal laurel (Prunus lusitanica) T1 and the Bay (Laurus nobilis) T2 are to crown lift up to 5 metres, and prune to allow clearance to street light. The works are to contain the spread of the trees, allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass the combined crowns.

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: 12/02/2026

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 12.02.2026