Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 04/06/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0529/25**
Address	**4 Church Walk Worthing West Sussex BN11 2LH**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres one Cherry Tree T3 and Beech trees T1 & T2, reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, Acer T4, and to reduce crown height 1 metre, and trim sides up to 0.5 metres Beech trees of hedge B3 in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 15/05/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one single Cherry T3 in the northwest corner of the front garden adjacent to the public footpath, two Beech trees in the front garden which are part of the hedge B3 and an Acer (Maple) tree T4, in the rear garden growing along the boundary between 4 and 2 Church Walk Worthing in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Cherry Tree T3 and Beech trees T1 & T2, of hedge B3, and Acer T4, and to reduce crown height trim sides Beech hedge B3

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1985: The property is included within Conservation Area VII (Farncombe Road) designated by the Council on 7th November 1985, pursuant to Section 277 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971. The above area was amended by the Council on 29TH April 1997.

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 38 of 2003 confirmed on 10/12/2003.

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2003 to reduce radial spread by up to 2.5 metres on one Beech tree T4, reduce crown height by up to 2.5 metres and reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres on three Beech trees of group G1

2022: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres two Beech trees, to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres one Acer tree, and to reduce radial spread to north by up to 0.5 metres one Cherry Plum in the Farncombe Road Conservation Area.

2025: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.38 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres three Beech trees of group G1.

Planning Assessment

The trees are; a small mature Cherry and a large Beech Hedge that features two trees growing in the front garden and a large Maple tree growing near the centre of the western boundary of the rear garden. The trees are part of the landscape of the Farncombe Road Conservation Area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are:

Beech trees T1 & T2 of Hedge B3
These are two twin stemmed trees growing in close proximity that have been allowed to grow partially clear of the main hedge. Each tree has had its lower section faced to form a hedge with individual boles supporting higher separate crowns. The main crowns are dense and wide spread and intertwined.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and maintain a separation from the Hedge B3.

Hedge B3
This is a Beech hedge that includes a TPO tree to the Northern end (of Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 38 of 2003) and the two twin stemmed trees T1 and T2. The hedge is approximately 4 metres tall and extends from the Northeastern corner of the front garden, to close to the main building.

The proposed works are to reduce height 1 metre, and trim sides up to 0.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the hedge, and maintain the separation from the crowns of the trees.

Cherry Tree T3
This tree is a small mature multi-stemmed Cherry growing near the northwest corner of the front garden. The tree has several stems from ground level that are mostly clear to 2 metres where the stems begin to arch outward. The main crown is slightly open becoming denser to the perimeter and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals to the north.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres, to contain the size and spread of the tree crown.

Acer T4
This tree has less public prominence, being in the rear garden. The tree is growing in a small border between the rear lawn and the western boundary wall. The tree has a curved single stem to 3 metres where it divides into two stems that each divide again at 3.5 to 4 metres and where several large laterals emerge. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass 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 Farncombe Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer:	JDS	Date: 04/06/2025
Authorised by:	Louise Prew	Date: 17/07/2025