Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 06/05/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0218/25**
Address	**Rectory House West Street Sompting West Sussex BN15 0DA**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.162/05/76(S) of 1976 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres one Horse Chestnut tree T18.**

Date of site visit: 01/05/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large tall mature Horse Chestnut tree located near the Southeast corner of the main building. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to Sompting Parish Council who had no objections.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1976: Adur Tree Preservation Order 162/5/76 of 1976 confirmed.

2005: Works To Chestnut Tree Subject To T.P.O Ref 162/5/76(S) (Reduce And Reshape Crown By 30%, Crown Lift By 5M Cut Back From BLDG. By 3M)

2012: Crown lift to 6m above driveway 2x Oak T3 and T4, permitted.

2013: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order 162/5/76 to Crown lift up to 5 metres two Oak trees T4 and T5, and to remove selected secondary branch from one Oak tree T3.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Horse Chestnut growing to the Eastern side of the main building, close to the slightly taller Sycamore tree T20 in the front grounds garden adjacent to the parking area. The tree is part of a group of trees that are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Horse Chestnut tree T18 has a large diameter single stem to 12 metres, where it divides with the slightly smaller secondary stems mostly persisting to the broadly domed top. The first significant

laterals emerge from 8 metres, with some large epicormic growth from 2 metres.The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to the West side of the crown by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree, abate possible future nuisance and allow clearance to the main building.

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: 06/05/2025

Authorised by: PB Date: 7/5/25