Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 25/03/15**

Application Number	**AWDM/0283/15**
Address	**Shoreham Library St Marys Road Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5ZB**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce branches on east side by 1.5 – 2 metres on branches up to 8 metres above ground level, on one London Plane tree in the Shoreham Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 02/03/15

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single London Plane Street tree in pavement adjacent to Shoreham Library in St Marys Road Shoreham-by-Sea. The tree is an established part of in the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Shoreham Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce the radial spread of the tree on its eastern side by up to 1.5 -2 metres, on branches up to 8 metres above ground level.

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

1971: The Shoreham-by-Sea Conservation Area was originally designated in May 1971 covering an area encompassing the shopping areas of High Street, East Street and Brunswick Road; the areas surrounding St Mary's Church; and the adjoining residential areas.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature street tree growing in a small grass verge adjacent to town library and access to Shoreham Health Centre. The tree is one of several full sized trees on public land in this part of the Shoreham Conservation Area.

The tree is single stemmed to 4 metres where it becomes multi stemmed with some large diameter scaffold limbs. The crown is wide spreading with multiple spires attaining the same height giving the crown a slightly flat top. The crown is dense with some over extended secondary branches, some of which arch over to hang low at the outer edges of the crown.

The proposed works are to reduce the radial spread to the eastern side of the crown by up to 1.5 to 2 metres. This is to be carried out to a height of up to 8 metres from ground level. The works are to

reduce the over hang and remove low hanging branches across the the public foot path and within the entrance drive way of St Mary's Cottages.

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 Shoreham 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: 25/03/2015

Authorised by: PD Date: 31.3.15