Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 31/07/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/0740/23**
Address	**Jubilee Court Mill Road Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.4 of 2003 to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and remove deadwood, one Pine tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 29/06/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Pine located near the northeastern corner of the frontage of Jubilee Court, adjacent to the boundary wall and pavement and carriageway of Mill Road. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and remove deadwood.

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

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 4 of 2003 confirmed on 10/04/2004.

2003: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4/2003 to remove 2 lowest branches to south of main bole (at lower level) and cut back suckers at base 1 Lime (T2) and crown lift to 3 metres above ground level 1 Lime (T7)

2006: Application for consent under the Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4 of 2003 to remove two low limbs growing towards building and cut back tips of remaining branches growing towards building of one Common Lime (T2).

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4/2003 to crown thin one Corsican Pine (T1).

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4 of 2003 to re-pollard to previous pruning points to one Common Lime (T2) Refused.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4 of 2003 to remove epicormic growth from main stem and reduce height and crown spread of one Lime Tree (T2).

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.4 of 2003 to crown lift up to 5 metres Lime tree T21.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.4 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 to 3 metres, crown lift up to 6 metres, and crown thin 20% one Lime tree T2.

2023: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 4 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 to 3.5 metres Sycamore tree T3 and to remove selected lower limb to Southwest and remove deadwood Sycamore T4.

Planning Assessment

The Pine T1 is a large mature tree growing in the front grounds close to the boundary with 11 Mill Road, adjacent to Mill Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 3 metres where it then becomes a tightly forked parallel twin, each stem persisting to 8 metres where the stems divide again, becoming staggered from 8 metres. The first limbs emerge from 6 metres, and support several upright secondary stems that form the mostly flat top of the crown. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some over extended laterals that are across the carriageway to the north and close to the building to the south.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and remove deadwood. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow clearance to the road and building, and for safety reasons.

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: 31/07/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 31/7/23