Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 01/08/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0698/24**
Address	**117 Chesswood Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 2AE**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.9 of 1980 to prune lowest limb on North Northeast to allow clearance to cables, and remove deadwood one Scots Pine T4 of group G1 and to remove deadwood on Pine trees T1, T2 and T3 of group G1.**

Date of site visit: 18/07/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to the four remaining Scots Pine trees in the front garden of 117 Chesswood Road. The trees run along the south boundary adjacent to the public road. The trees are a prominent established group, which are part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to prune lowest limb on North Northeast to allow clearance to cables, and remove deadwood Scots Pine tree T4 of group G1 and to remove deadwood on Pine trees T1, T2 and T3 of group G1.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1980: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 9 of 1980 confirmed on 12/05/80.

1981: Removal of 1 bough on Scots Pine within group G1 on Chesswood Road frontage (Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 9/1980). The Glen 117 Chesswood Road **Appeal Decision**

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 9 of 1980 to crown lift up to 6 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 2.5 metres on the longest limbs, crown thin by up to 10-15% and prune to clear phone lines by up to 1-2 metres, on five Scots Pines of group G1

Planning Assessment

The trees are four large mature Scots growing in the front garden adjacent to the public pavement, close to the junction of Chesswood Road and Ladydell Road. The trees prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.9 of 1980, states “five Scots Pine adjacent to Chesswood Road” however there are only four trees present with no distinguishable gaps or signs of a stump etc. Therefore it is accepted that despite a lack of records the missing tree was lost several decades ago. The trees are all single stemmed with the first major lateral limbs emerging high at 7 -9 metres. The first three trees from the west are of equal overall height with intertwined crowns. The Pine at the eastern end of the row is single stemmed to 8 metres, where the tree may have been damaged. At 8 metres this tree divides into two horizontal stems of equal size that form a crown that is lower than the other trees in the group. The combined main crown is moderately dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to prune the lowest limb to the Northeast to allow clearance to cables, and remove deadwood on the Scots Pine T4 at the Eastern end of group G1 and to remove deadwood on the other Scots Pine trees T1, T2 and T3 of group G1. The works are to abate possible future nuisance, and for safety and amenity reasons.

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: 01/08/2024

Authorised by: LPrew Date: 01/08/2024