Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 04/08/14**

Application Number **AWDM/0859/14**

Site Address: **25 Church Street Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5DQ**

Proposal: **Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height by up to 1.5 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 1 – 2 metres and crown thin by up to 20% one Macrocarpa tree in the Shoreham Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 10/07/14

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single large Macrocarpa tree in the rear garden of 25 Church Street in the Shoreham Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce the radial spread by up to 1 -2 metres and crown thin by up to 20%.

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

Consultations: ADCAG - Approve

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1971: The Shoreham-by-Sea Conservation Area 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 Macrocarpa growing in the rear garden of 25 Church Street. The tree is prominent to the area around Middle Street and the Middle Street public car park and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Shoreham-by-Sea Conservation Area.

The tree is 11 metres tall with a single stem to around 3-4 metres. The main central stem continues throughout the tree with several large secondary stems attaining the same overall height. The crown of the tree is bushy and slightly top heavy. The foliage persists 2.5 -3 metres into the crown, which allows for some radial reduction. There is some dead foliage present, which may be early signs of Seiridium cardinale.

The proposed works are to reduce the radial spread of the crown by up to 2 metres on the longest most extended branches, and to reduce the crown height by up to 1.5 metres. The works are to allow more light into the garden, and give clearance to the adjacent out building at the end of the rear garden. If the browning of some needles is due to Seiridium cardinale, these works will also reduce its spread.

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, or amenity value, or its contribution to the character of the Shoreham-by-Sea 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: 04/08/2014

Authorised by: Peter Barnett Date: 11 August 2014