Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 19/02/16**

Application Number	**AWDM/0114/16**
Address	**Sussex County Lawn Tennis Club Kingston Lane Southwick BN42 4BR**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to re-pollard 10 Sycamore trees and to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres and reduce crown height by up to 2 metres one Purple Leaved Plum tree in the Kingston Buci Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 19/02/16

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

The application refers to a boundary row of trees on the eastern side of the grounds of the Sussex County Lawn Tennis Club. The trees are adjacent to an access driveway to …..Park Lane

The trees are part of an established group of trees, which are part of in the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Kingston Buci Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to re-pollard 10 Sycamore trees, and to reduce height and spread of one Purple Leaved Plum, at the northern end of the group.

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

1977: The Kingston Buci Conservation Area designated under section 277 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, as amended by the Town AND Country Amenities Act 1974 by Adur District Council on the 13th April 1977.

2015: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce radial spread by up to 2-2.5 metres on one Sycamore tree to the South west of courts (T1), Crown lift up to 4 metres seven Sycamore trees on eastside (T2) and to fell one Sycamore tree in North West Corner (T3) in the Southwick Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The trees are ten medium to large sized matures growing as a linear group along the eastern side of the grounds Sussex County Lawn Tennis Club.

The trees are;

T1 Purple Leaved Plum
This tree is mostly hidden by a large amount of Ivy, and other scrub etc. The tree is at the far northern end of the group adjacent to the footpath of Park Lane Southwick. The tree provides some variation to the group and is the most visible, if not the most prominent of the 11 trees. The proposed works are to reduce the height and spread of the tree by up to 2 metres. This is to contain the size and spread of the tree and to reshape the crown.

G1 10 Sycamore trees
The trees in group G1 are of various sizes and heights, which have all been pollarded at the same time. The resulting re-growth has produced several mostly upright large stems that have some secondary wider spread branches. The main stems and unions of the trees have many defects and cavities. The proposed works are to re-pollard all ten trees. This is to continue the previous management of the trees and to prolong their life expectancy.

These works in my opinion will be large in relation to the overall size and form of the trees and a significant amount of reduction will take place. However the affect on the trees appearance will not be detrimental as the result will be to improve their amenity value and their contribution to the character of the Kingston Buci 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: 03/03/2016

Authorised by: PD Date: 14.3.16