Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 24/05/17**

Application Number	**AWDM/0471/17**
Address	**53a Southwick Street Southwick BN42 4TH**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height by up to 1 to 2 metres one ~~Sycamore~~ Prunus tree T4, to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres on one Holly tree T5 and to fell three fruit trees T1 T2 and T3 in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 08/05/17

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one medium sized mature Holly tree a small to medium sized young Prunus (T4) and three immature fruit trees. The Prunus is on the north side of the access road from Southwick Street, the fruit trees are in the land to the west of the driveway, and the Holly is located in the rear garden of 55 Southwick Street.

The trees are a part of the street scene and make a limited contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height of tree T4, to reduce crown height and radial spread by up on the Holly tree and to fell all three fruit trees.

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

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

2010: 6 weeks prior notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area (height reduction of Bay and Sycamore, removal of branch on south side of Sycamore and fell Judas)

2015: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and reduce radial spread by up to 4 metres on two Sycamore trees T1, and T2 in the Southwick Conservation Area.

2015: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Sycamore tree T1 in the Southwick Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The trees are four small immatures (fruit trees T1 – T3) and two slightly larger older trees the Holly T5 and the Prunus T4. The trees provide some amenity to the area but are restricted in their public views.

The trees are:

Prunus T4
This tree has three stems, each with foliage and laterals from ground level. All three stems have been reduced at 3.5 metres, resulting in a mass of smaller slender stems. The main crown has no central leader, is moderately dense and wide spread. The proposed works are to reduce the crown height by up to 1 to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the crown.

Holly T5
The Holly tree is growing to the north of 53a Southwick Street in the rear garden of number 55. The tree has a single stem to 4 metres, where other stems emerge and the main stem becomes more slender. The tree has had a heavy Ivy incursion that is being dealt with but has distorted the shape of the crown. The proposed works are to reduce height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres to contain the size and spread of the crown.

Friut trees T1 T2 & T3
These three Apple trees are growing in an informal part of the garden to the North West of the house that is fenced on three sides. The area has several lower growing trees and shrubs such as Bay Beech and Privet. The trees are sprawling tall trees with no definable form and each have a heavy incursion of Ivy. The proposal is to remove all three trees without replacements. The works are to thin out the area, and allow development of the other plants.

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 Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 24/05/2017

Authorised by: PD Date: 26.5.17