**Development Management – Delegated Officer Report** **Date; 10/11/21**

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| **Application Number** | **AWDM/1212/21** |
| **Address** | **19 Freshfields Drive Lancing West Sussex BN15 9LW** |
| **Proposal** | **Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.13.53/1/01 of 2001 to reduce radial spread on southern side by up to 3 metres, Poplar trees T1 and T2.** |

**Date of site visit:** 04/10/21

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

**Proposal, Site and Surroundings**

The application refers to two large tall mature Poplar trees located on the southern side of the rear access way between Freshfields Drive and Lancing Close. The trees are part of a line of trees that are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread on the southern side, Poplar trees T1 and T2.

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

**Consultations:** None.

**Representations:** One representation from nearby neighbour claiming the works are overdue and in support

**Relevant Planning History**

2001: Adur Tree Preservation order Number 13.53/1/01/L of 2001 made on 30/01/2001.

**Planning Assessment**

The trees are part of a row of large tall Poplar trees that run from east to west along the rear access way to properties in Lancing Close, adjacent to the boundaries with properties in Freshfields Drive. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

<u>Poplar tree T1</u>
This tree is to the east of the two Poplars, close to the Northwest corner of the rear garden of 21 Freshfields Drive. The tree has a stout single stem to 7 metres where it then divides into several long stems that have each been previously pollarded at 9 to 10 metres. The regrowth is mostly large, becoming slender toward the top. The first lateral branches emerge from 2 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals, and an insurgence of Ivy.

<u>Poplar tree T2</u>
The Poplar tree T2 is to the west of the two trees, located close to the northeast corner of the rear garden of 17 Freshfields Drive. The tree has a large diameter single stem to 5 metres where it then

divides into 4 to 5 straight upright stems that have each been pollarded at 10 to 12 metres. Two of the stems on the north side were re-pollarded in 2020 (unauthorised works). The main crown is dense and wide spread with some over extended laterals.

The proposed works for both trees are to reduce radial spread on the southern side by up to 3 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the trees, allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

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: 10/11/2021

Authorised by: PB Date: 10/11/21