

Application Number **AWDM/0586/26**

Address **17 Vicarage Fields Worthing West Sussex BN13 3SF**

Proposal **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.27 of 2003 to reduce crown height by up to 1 metre and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, Holm Oak trees numbered from South to North T3 T4 and T5 of group G3, and to reduce radial spread 1 to 1.5 metres Holm Oak trees South to North T1 T2 and T6.**

Date of site visit: 09/07/26

Neighbours checked: Y

Additional neighbour notifications: N

Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area): N

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The trees are six mature Holm Oaks growing along the Western boundary of the rear garden, adjacent to the garage compounds of Ivydore Close and Bramble Close, and the rear garden of 9 & 10 Ivydore Close. The trees are an established feature of Vicarage Fields and are prominent in the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Holm Oak trees numbered from South to North T3 T4 and T5 of group G3, and to reduce radial spread only Holm Oak trees South to North T1 T2 and T6.

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

The works initially proposed have been amended by agreement with the Applicant.

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1967: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 1 of 1967 confirmed on 18/03/1968.

1991: Application to crown reduce 13 Holm Oak trees by approximately 10 to 12 feet (subject to Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 1/1967)

1995: Application to fell 13 Ilex trees, part of group G1 subject to Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 1/1967

1995: Application under Tree Preservation Order No.1/1967 to fell 5 Ilex trees out of a line of 13 trees (part of group G1)

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 20 of 2001 confirmed on 12/06/2001.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to fell one Rowan tree (T14). Refused – Allowed on Appeal.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to crown thin 7 Holm Oaks (G3) by 20%.

2012: Application under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2001 to crown reduce by up to 50% and crown thin by up to 30% seven Holm Oak trees in rear garden adjacent to western boundary (Part of Group G3). Refused.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.20 of 2001 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown thin 10% Holm trees of group G3.

Planning Assessment

The property is part of an 1980s cul-de-sac of 22 detached houses, of which nos. 15 to 22 run parallel to the linear group of mature trees. The rear garden trees are part of group G3 of TPO 20 of 2001 which consists of 43 Holm Oak and 13 Holly trees. The trees are six mature Holm Oak, numbered T1 to T6 from South to North. The trees T1 T2 and T6 are smaller matures with the trees T3 T4 and T5 attaining the tallest heights. The trees are prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The trees are six mature Holm Oaks, T1 and T2 are slightly smaller bushy trees to the Southern end of the row growing slightly apart from the larger trees T3 T4 and T5, which are the tallest and most prominent. The northernmost tree T6 is also slightly separated and an overall smaller tree. The combined main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 1 metre and reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, Holm Oak trees T3 T4 and T5 of group G3, and to reduce radial spread 1 to 1.5 metres Holm Oak trees T1 T2 and T6. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and allow more light and air to pass over and around the combined 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 description 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: 28/07/2026

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 28.07.2026