

Application Number **AWDM/0569/26**

Address **Saint Marys Residential Home 14 Westbrooke Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RF**

Proposal **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.47 of 1995 to fell and replace one Purple Beech tree T3.**

Date of site visit: 07/07/26

Neighbours checked: Y

Additional neighbour notifications: N

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large tall mature Purple Beech tree located in the Northwest of the front grounds, in a border south of the vehicular entrance. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Richmond Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to fell and replace one Purple Beech tree T3.

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

Consultations: None

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1995: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 47 of 1995 confirmed on 09/01/96.

1997: The property is within the Richmond Road Conservation Area XV designated by the council on 29th April 1997.

2006: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 47 of 1995 to remove low primary limb overhanging path back to source of one Yew (T4) in the grounds of St. Mary's Residential Home; and remove low secondary limb encroaching telephone wire over garage back to source of one Sycamore (T1) in ground of Our Lady Of Sion Junior School.

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 49/1995 to crown reduce group of 3 Holm Oak (G1) by up to 25% adjacent to the highway and crown reduce one Sycamore (T1) by 20%.

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 47 of 1995 to raise canopy to 5.5 metres over driveway and remove deadwood on Beech tree (T3) and to raise canopy over footpath to 2.5 metres and remove dead wood on Yew tree (T4).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Purple Beech growing in the front grounds slightly set back from the pavement of Westbrooke. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 6 metres, with a large secondary stem from 4 metres. At 6 metres the main stem divides into two upright stems that each mostly persist to the top. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals, with the foliage becoming smaller and more sparse to the eastern side.

The proposed works are to fell and replace the tree due an emergence of Ganodermer fruiting bodies around the entire base of the tree. This indicates that the tree is likely to enter a rapid decline.

These works in my opinion will be large in relation to the overall number of trees and a significant amount of change will take place. However the effect on the area will be compensated with the provision of a replacement tree.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans
2. The proposed felling of the Beech tree T3, and its replacement shall be carried out in full within two years from the date of this consent and in accordance with details of the size, species and position of the replacement tree planting to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

3. If within five years following replanting, the replacement tree dies or becomes seriously diseased, another tree of the same size and species shall be planted in a similar position during the next planting season following the removal of the replacement tree, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written approval to any variation.

Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date: 24/07/2026

Authorised by: LPrew Date: 27/07/2026