**Development Management – Delegated Officer Report** **Date; 04/04/2024**

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| **Application Number** | **AWDM/0142/24** |
| **Address** | **103 Heene Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4PH** |
| **Proposal** | **Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.50 of 2001 to fell and replace one False Acacia tree T3.** |

**Date of site visit:** 07/02/24

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

**Proposal, Site and Surroundings**

The application refers to a large mature Robinia located near the Southeast corner of the enclosed front garden. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Heene Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to fell and replace one False Acacia tree.

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

**Consultations:** Letter sent to The Worthing Society, who did not respond.

**Representations:** None received.

**Relevant Planning History**

1985: The property is included within Conservation Area VI (Heene), designated by the Council on 31st January 1985.

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 50 of 2001 confirmed on 03/09/01.

2010: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 50 of 2001 to crown lift over pavement to 3m and to 5m over the road on Manor Road frontage one Robinia (T4) and one Holm Oak (T5); and to crown lift to 2.5m over pavement and 5m over the road on Heene Road frontage group of 4 Robinia, 2 Sycamore and 1 Yew and crown lift to 3m one Holm Oak and trim back lowest branch of one Pine (G1) and to crown lift to 3m one Robinia (T3); and Section 211 Notice to fell 1 Robinia, south side of entrance to property (within Heene Conservation Area).

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.50 of 2001 to crown lift up to 4 metres, crown reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and reduce crown height by up to 2 metres on one False Acacia T3, and four False Acacia, 2 Sycamore and one Holm Oak of group G1

**Planning Assessment**

The tree is a large mature Robinia growing in the front garden adjacent to the junction of Heene Road and Boundary Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree is an over mature False Acacia, that is possibly the remaining stem of a previously much larger tree. The tree has a single stem that runs horizontally at ground level for 2 metres before ascending as a single stem. The main stem is slightly sparse, with a relatively high crown. There is a smaller secondary stem on the North side that is in poor condition with some dead wood and large areas of decay. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to fell and replace the tree, due to severe decay and damage to the horizontal section of the stem. The works are for safety and amenity reasons.

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 Heene Conservation 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 False Acacia 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: 04/04/2024

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 05/04/2024