Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 10/09/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0756/24**
Address	**33 Offington Lane Worthing West Sussex BN14 9RG**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.31 of 1990 to remove three lowest limbs on south side, and remove deadwood one Corsican Pine T3.**

Date of site visit: 27/08/24

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 Corsican Pine located near the centre of the access driveway from Offington lane. The tree is a part of a group of mature trees that are a prominent part of the street scene and that make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to remove three lowest limbs on the South side, and remove deadwood.

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

1990: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 31 of 1990 confirmed on 04/02/1991.

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 31/1990 to fell one Flowering Cherry tree within the front garden ; and crown lift to 4 metres, 10% crown thin, reduce branches towards 31 Offington Lane by up to one metre and reduce branches on eastern side by one metre - one Holm Oak - (T4).

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 31 of 1990 to remove one large branch on Ash tree, east side of Group G6, over driveway and to remove large branch on north side of second Ash tree in group over patio, together with minor pruning to reshape both trees.

2011: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 5 of 1989 to thin canopies by 10-15 %; remove dead wood; raise canopies to 4 metres and remove crossing branches to group of Ash trees in south west corner of rear garden within Group G 1.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.31 of 1990 to crown lift up to 6 metres, to allow clearance of up to 4 metres to adjacent garages, Ash Walnut and Holm Oak trees of group G6.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Pine growing on the Northern side of the access roadway between 35 and 33 Offington Lane. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a straight single stem to 14 metres, where it begins to angle to the Southeast, and that persists to within 1 to 2 metres of the top. The first limbs emerge from 10 metres, with some dead laterals remaining. The main crown is moderately dense and wide spread, and very high.

The proposed works are to remove three lowest limbs on the south side, and remove deadwood. The works are to abate possible future nuisance, reduce cone and needle fall and for general safety.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the tree and would not significantly or adversely affect its appearance, amenity value, or its 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: 10/09/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 10.09.2024