Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 13/03/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0024/25**
Address	**1 Fourth Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NY**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres one Purple Beech tree T18.**

Date of site visit: 13/02/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium sized mature Purple leaved Beech located along the western fence line of the rear garden. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 37of 2003 confirmed on 29/09/2003.

2008: Application to crown thin by 15%, reduce lower branches by average 1 metre and clean out one Beech (T18).

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 37 of 2003 to crown lift up to 4.5 metres crown thin by up to 10% and crown reduce radial spread by up to 0.5 metres one Beech tree T18.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 2003 to crown thin by 50% one Purple Beech tree (T18) on western boundary of rear garden.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Purple Beech growing in the rear garden adjacent to the Pavement of First Avenue. The tree is one of several tall prominent trees along the length of First Avenue and that can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 2 metres, where it divides into two tightly forked stems that become more separated from 3 metres, and each divide again from 4.25 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass the crown.

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: 13/03/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 14/03/2025