Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 27/08/21**

Application Number	**AWDM/1471/21**
Address	**Southwick Cemetery Downsway Southwick West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 2021 to reduce radial spread to north by up to 2 to 3 metres one Beech tree T1**

Date of site visit: 27/08/21

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Beech tree growing on Council land to the south of No.51 Downsway Southwick. 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 radial spread to northern side of the crown.

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

2021: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 2 of 2021 made on 28/07/2021 (Provisional, not confirmed).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature growing to the northern side of the driveway of Southwick Cemetery, close to the main entrance gates. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Beech tree T1 has a large diameter single stem to 2 metres, where it then divides into two large stems: the northeast stem dividing at 2.5 metres, with each stem dividing again at 4 metres. The west stem mostly persists to 6 metres, where it also divides into several stems. The first secondary laterals emerge from 4 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to north by up to 2 to 3 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree within the neighbouring garden of 51 Downsway and allow more light and air to pass through 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

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. 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: 27/08/2021

Authorised by: PB Date: 27/8/21