Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 06/12/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1287/23**
Address	**19 Roman Crescent Southwick West Sussex BN42 4TY**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 to 4 metres, remove crossing branches and remove deadwood one Beech tree in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 20/10/23

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 Beech tree in the rear garden, near the northwest corner of the main building. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread, remove crossing branches and remove deadwood.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to ACAAG - Adur Conservation Area Advice Group who approved the works.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas: Manor House, The Green and Church Lane. The area was extended in 1979 to include buildings on the North side of Roman Crescent.

2014: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Holm Oak tree in the Southwick Conservation Area.

2014: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to crown reduce height by up to 3.5 metres one Sycamore tree in the Southwick Conservation Area.

2017: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce height by up to 2-3 metres and radial growth by 1-2 metres, crown lift to 4 metres one Beech tree T1 in the Southwick Conservation Area.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Beech growing in the Southwest corner of the rear garden close to the main building. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 4 metres, where several subdominant stems emerge. The central stem persists in reduced form to 7 metres where it then begins to divide. The top 5 -6 metres of the crown is formed mostly of slender stems, with no central leader. The main crown is dense and wide spread with clusters of more widely spread laterals to the south and north east.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 to 4 metres, remove crossing branches and remove deadwood. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, abate possible future nuisance, and for general maintenance.

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: 06/12/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 6/12/23