Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 12/01/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/1452/23**
Address	**18 Gorse Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 9PG**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.44 of 1997 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2.5 metres Beech tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 21/11/23

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 located near the northeast corner of the rear garden. The tree is a prominent part of the area and makes a contribution to its character and visual amenities.

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

1997: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 44 of 1997 confirmed on 15/12/1997.

2010: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 44 of 1997 to remove dead wood, reduce 2 highest branches to reshape, reduce branches over garden of 12 Offington Court by average 1 metre, crown lift to 4 metres and thin by 10% one Beech (T1) in rear garden.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.44 of 1997 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 3 metres one Beech tree (T1).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature growing on raised ground at the far end of the rear garden, near its northeast corner, where it is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many properties.

The tree has a single stem to 2.5 metres, where it divides into several stems. There are two large secondary stems on the southwest, one at 2 metres, and another at 2.5 metres, both extend to an equal height to the central stems. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some twisted, fused and rubbing branches.

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.

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: 12/01/2024

Authorised by: LPrew Date: 12/01/2024