Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 01/08/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/0772/23**
Address	**132 Warren Road Worthing West Sussex BN14 9RB**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 2000 to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5.5 metres, and crown thin 25% one Ash tree T6.**

Date of site visit: 27/07/23

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 Ash tree. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread, crown lift, and crown thin.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2000: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 15 of 2000 confirmed on 05/01/2000.

2008: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 1 of 2007 for removal of lowest limb on south side overhanging property to the bole of one Ash (T1).

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 15 of 2000 to crown lift one Ash tree (T6) in rear garden to 4m and clean out and to crown lift group of 6no. Sycamore (G7) in front garden to 4m and clean out and to reduce spread on west side of one Yew tree

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 2000 to fell and replace 6 Sycamore trees of group G7. Refused.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 2000 to reduce radial spread by 1.5 to 2.5 metres, reduce crown height by up to 2 metres, to crown lift up to 3.5 metres and crown thin up to 15% one Ash tree T6, and to reduce radial spread by 1 metre, and crown lift up to 2.25 metres one Yew tree of group G7.

Planning Assessment

The Ash T6 is a large mature tree growing in the rear garden adjacent to the boundary with 130 Warren Road, the applicants. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The Ash tree is a large tall tree that is visible from the road and forms a backdrop to the houses on the northern side of the A27 / Warren Road. The tree has a clear straight single stem 6 metres, where it then divides into three medium sized stems in a tight array. These stems divide again at 8 metres, forming a slightly bushy top to the crown. The main crown is dense, and wide spread with some lower hanging secondary branches.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5.5 metres, and crown thin 25%.

These works are to contain the spread of the tree, abate possible future nuisance, allow access beneath 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

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: 01/08/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 1/8/23