Development Management - Delegated Officer Report

Application Number: **Recommendation – Approve**
AWDM/0994/12

Site: **73 The Green, Southwick, West Sussex BN42 4FX**

Proposal: **Reduce the radial crown spread by 0.5 metre all round, reduce the height by 1 metre by using the drop crotching method and lift the lower canopy by 2.5 metres removing branches no more than 2½ inches (4 cm) in diameter on one Elm tree in front garden (6 weeks notification of works to a tree within the Southwick Conservation Area) (Notice amended 08 October 2012)**

Date of site visit: 18 September 2012

Neighbours checked**:** Y
Additional neighbour notifications: N

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

This is a notice under Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 of the intention to carry out works to an individual Elm tree in the front garden of 73 The Green, Southwick, the tree being situated within the Southwick Conservation Area.

The notice has been amended since its original submission, which follows negotiations on 18th September 2012.

Under the notice amended on 8th October 2012, the following revised, lesser works to the Elm tree are proposed:

(i) Reduce the radial crown spread by 0.5 metre, all round;

(ii) Reduce the height by 1 metre using the drop crotching method;

(iii) Lift the lower crown by 2.5 metres removing branches no more than 2½ inches (4 cm.) in diameter.

The reasons for the works are general maintenance.

The property is a two-storey detached dwelling. It is situated on the west side of The Green just to the north of the junction of The Cotswolds and The Green, within the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consultations

The Council's Arboriculturist supports the revised works to the Elm tree, as set out above.

Representations

None received

Planning Assessment

The Elm tree is a prominent, established feature of the street scene and of the Southwick Conservation Area in which it is situated, and with high public amenity value.

The proposed revised works to this tree under this Section 211 Notice, as amended by the applicant's tree surgeon on 8th October 2012, would be minor routine pruning, which would contain and tidy the tree.

These revised works would respect the tree's natural form and branch structure and would improve the tree's appearance, which would enhance the character and appearance of the Southwick Conservation Area.

In view of these findings, a Tree Preservation Order to control these works by application for consent is not considered necessary.

The applicant should be advised that the Council is not minded to make a Tree Preservation Order to control these proposed lesser works to the Elm tree by application for consent; and these works to the tree may go ahead.

Recommendation

That the applicant be advised that the Council is not minded to make a Tree Preservation Order to control the revised works to the Elm tree, as amended on 8th October 2012, and these works, as specified in the revised description of the Notice, may go ahead.

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation? No

Case Officer: HBM Date: 15th October 2012

Authorised by: P Devonport Date: 23.10.12