Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 26/01/24**

Application Number	**AWDM/1621/23**
Address	**14 Furze Road Worthing West Sussex BN13 3BP**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 1991 to reduce radial spread to East and North by up to 2 metres, Beech tree T10.**

Date of site visit: 28/11/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single Beech tree in the side driveway of 14 Furze Road. The tree is a one of an established group of trees, which are part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread to East and North.

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

1991: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 2 of 1991 confirmed on 09/04/1991.

1998: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 16/1980 to crown lift Yew tree (T1) at 16 Furze Road to 3 metres to the bole and for consent under Tree Preservation Order No 2/1991 to crown lift one Beech (T10) at 14 Furze Road, one Beech (T7) at Meghana and one Oak (T9) at Apple Tree Cottage, Honeysuckle Lane to 4 metres to the bole: Meghana and Apple Tree Cottage Honeysuckle Lane Furze Road.

2005: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order 2/1991 to crown reduce by 15%, crown thin by 20% and crown lift by up to 5 metres to one Beech tree (T10).

2010: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 2 of 1991 to lift secondary and tertiary branches to a height of 4 metres above ground level to one Beech tree (T10).

2014: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 1991 to crown lift up to 5 metres, and to crown thin by up to 20% one Beech tree T10.

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 1991 to reduce height by 2m, reduce lateral canopy by 1.5m and crown thin by 10% to one Beech tree (T10).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Beech growing in the front garden adjacent to the garages and main building of 14 Furze road. The tree is prominent to the area, and makes a positive contribution to the character of the area.

The Beech tree T10 is single stemmed to 2 metres, dividing into 5 tightly forked and partially fused main stems each of which persists to the top of the wide crown. The main stems are large and mostly upright, with the crowns width and density being made up of the numerous slender secondary branches. There are some smaller low hanging limbs some of which are very close to the dwelling of 14 Furze Road. The main crown is dense and wide spread, mostly on long slender laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to East and North by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow clearance to the adjacent buildings.

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: 26/01/2024

Authorised by: Gary Peck Date: 26 January 2024