Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date: 26/10/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1184/23**
Address	**18 High Street Worthing West Sussex BN14 7NN**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.18 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 metres one Horse Chestnut tree T1 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 4 metres, and reduce limb to north by up to 50% one Ash tree T2.**

Date of site visit: 25/10/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large mature trees located along the Southern boundary of the rear garden. The trees are a part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Tarring Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread one Horse Chestnut tree T1 and to reduce crown height and radial, and reduce selected limb to north one Ash tree T2.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1975: The property is included within Conservation Area No.1 (West Tarring) Designated by the Council on 6th March 1975

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 18 of 2003 confirmed on 24/09/03.

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.18 of 2003 to crown thin one Horse Chestnut (T1) (southern boundary); removal of secondary growth back to the bole (lowest limb on south side of tree) one Ash (T2) (south east boundary)

1997: Application for consent under Woeet Chestnuts (T9/T10).

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.18 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, on one tree Horse Chestnut tree T1.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large matures: one Horse Chestnut and one Ash, growing in the rear garden adjacent to the rear gardens of properties in Glebe Road, where the trees are most visible. The trees are a part of the area, and can be seen from many views. The trees are:

Horse Chestnut T1
This tree has a large diameter single stem to 2 metres that then divides into 4 mostly upright main stems. The two central stems are co-dominant and attain an equal height at the top of the crown. The crown is dense mostly upright, being wide spread on the secondary limbs.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 3 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass around the crown.

Ash T2
The Ash tree T2 is further east and has a single stem to 4 metres, where other stems emerge and a main central stem that persists to 8 to 9 metres before dividing again. The foliage is from 2 metres and the tree has a slight imbalance to the North and Northeast. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 4 metres, and reduce one selected limb to the north by up to 50%. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and to rebalance the crown.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the trees and would not significantly or adversely affect their appearance, amenity value, or contribution to the character of the West Tarring Conservation 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: 26/10/2023

Authorised by: Gary Peck Date: 26 October 2023