Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 23/01/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/1302/24**
Address	**5 Parkfield Road Worthing West Sussex BN13 1EN**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 2004 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 7 metres one Walnut tree T6.**

Date of site visit: 16/01/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single Walnut tree near the centre of the Southern boundary of the rear garden of 5 Parkfield Road. The tree is an established feature, which makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 2004 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 7 metres one Walnut tree T6.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2004: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 3 of 1972 confirmed on 15/05/73.

2004: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 8 of 2004 confirmed on 10/01/05.

2006: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 8/2004 to crown lift to 2.5 metres, remove longest branches by up to 1 metre back to growth points and remove dead wood and crossing branches - one Walnut tree (T6).

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 2004 to reduce radial spread and crown height by up to 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 2.5 metres and to crown thin up to 15% one Walnut tree T6.

2018: Application under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 8 of 2004 to raise canopy to 4m, reduce radial spread and top branches by up to 2m of Walnut in rear garden T6.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 2004 to reduce radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, one Walnut tree T6.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.3 of 1972 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, crown thin 15% and prune to allow clearance to roof of property of up to 2.5 metres one Copper Beech tree T1.

Planning Assessment

The Walnut tree is a medium sized early mature, growing to the southern end of the rear garden, close to the boundary with properties in Ethelwulf Road. The tree is prominent to the area and can be seen from several views.

The tree is single stemmed to 1.75 metres where it then divides into several large scaffold limbs that each divide again at 2.5 to 3 metres. This forms a wide array of stems, some of which are larger and beginning to arch over and hang lower. The main crown is heavily laden on the perimeter, and slightly sparser in its centre.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 7 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree, abate possible future nuisance, and allow access and allow more light and air to pass beneath 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:23/01/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 23.01.2025