Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 21/05/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0243/25**
Address	**32 Bulkington Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 7HY**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.79 of 2001 to reduce crown height by up to 1 metre, reduce radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, 2 metres on the longest most protruding limbs and to crown lift up to 5 metres one Deodar tree T4 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 5 metres, one Lawson Cypress T5.**

Date of site visit: 01/04/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two large matures, a Deodar located in the front garden adjacent to the junction of Bulkington Avenue and Gaisford Road, and a Monterey Cypress on the eastern boundary of the rear garden. Both trees are prominent parts of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Deodar tree T4 and the Lawson Cypress T5.

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

2001: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 79 of 2001 confirmed on 22/11/2001.

2020: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 79 of 2001 to remove three low branches heading over road, deadwood and crown thin crown up to 10% Deodar T4 and to fell and replace Lawson Cypress T5. Split Decision T4 Approved, T5 Refused.

2021: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 79 of 2001 to crown lift up to 6 metres, crown thin up to 30% and deadwood one Deodar T4.

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large matures; one Lawson Cypress and one Deodar, growing along the eastern boundaries of the front and rear gardens, close to Gaisford Road and its junction with Bulkington Avenue at the southern end. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are;

Deodar T4
This tree has a large single stem to 8 metres, where it then divides into several stems that are mostly upright and persist to within 2 to 3 metres of the top of the crown. The main crown is slightly sparse and open with some wider spread laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 1 metre, reduce radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, 2 metres on the longest most protruding limbs and to crown lift up to 5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow access and more light and air to pass beneath the crown.

Lawson Cypress T5
The Lawson Cypress tree T5 has a single stem to 2 metres where it then divides into two parallel upright stems that each divide from 8 metres into central groups of long slender poles. The southern stem is the taller of the two and supports more of the crown. Several large outward arching laterals emerge at 4 to 5 metres. The main crown is very high with the first foliage emerging from 7 metres, and dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres, and crown lift up to 5 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and maintain the clearance of 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 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: 21/05/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 21/05/2025