Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 27/10/22**

Application Number	**AWDM/1376/22**
Address	**17 Roman Crescent Southwick West Sussex BN42 4TY**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.162/3/76(SW) of 1976 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre, Pine tree T6, to remove epicormic growth Beech tree T7, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, and crown thin up to 20% one Cedar tree T8.**

Date of site visit: 05/09/22

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to three large mature trees located in the front garden. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Pine tree T6, to remove epicormic growth Beech tree T7, and to reduce crown height and radial spread and crown thin Cedar tree T8

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

Consultations: Letters sent to ACAAG - Adur Conservation Area Advice Group Council who did not respond.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1976: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number of confirmed on 020/03/201904.

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas: Manor House, The Green and Church Lane. The area was extended in 1979 to include buildings on the North side of Roman Crescent.

1985: Removal Of Cedar Tree (Tree Preservation Order 3/76 (SW)). Refused Appeal Dismissed.

1985: Lopping Of One Branch Of Cedar Tree (Tree Preservation Order 3/76/(SW)). Refused Appeal Dismissed.

1988: Application to lop 3 trees (subject of TPO 3/76 SW).

2000: Works To Pine, Cedar and Beech Trees (Subject To Tpo 3/76/SW) Crown lift Pine tree deadwood Beech tree and Crown lift Cedar..

2013: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No. 3 of 1976 to deadwood one Pine (T6), crown lift to 3 metres and deadwood one Beech Tree (T7) and remove single branch on the north side of crown and deadwood one Cedar tree (T8).

2013: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce to a height of 4 metres; four Beech trees one Silver Birch and one Olive tree, and to reduce by up to 1.5 metres in radial spread and up to 1.5 metres in height one Cherry Laurel.

Planning Assessment

The Pine Cedar, and Pine are three large mature trees growing in the front garden adjacent to its eastern and southern boundaries. The trees prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are:

Pine tree T6
This tree is located to the southwest of the raised border at the centre of the southern boundary of the front garden. The tree has a clear straight single stem that persists 12 metres, where it then divides. The largest secondary stem is to the northeast and supports the highest spire. The main crown is moderately dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 metre, to contain the size and spread of the tree.

Beech tree T7
The Beech tree T7 is located to the northeast of the central border approximately 3 to 4 metres from the Pine T6. The tree has a large diameter single stem to 8 metres, where it divides into two and the crown breaks. The trunk has epicormic growth from 1.8 metres, some being relatively large in diameter. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to remove epicormic growth to allow access and allow more light and air to pass beneath the crown.

Cedar tree T8
This tree is growing to the northeast of the front garden, adjacent to the boundary with 19 Roman Crescent. The tree has a large diameter single stem to 4 metres, where it then becomes a tightly forked parallel twin, with a large equal height secondary that emerges from 2 metres on the southwest. The main stems divide from 6 to 10 metres. 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 1 to 2 metres, and crown thin up to 20%. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass through 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 Southwick 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: 27/10/2022

Authorised by: PB Date: 27/10/22