Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 30/01/15**

Application Number	**AWDM/1709/14**
Address	**Street Record O/S 30 Albert Road Southwick BN42 4GE**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Ash (Street tree) in the Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 05/01/15

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single Ash tree in the public footpath of Albert Road Southwick outside of number 30.

The tree is are part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to remove the tree.

The reasons for the works are primarily in the interests of safety, to abate nuisance and amenity value.

Consultations: None.

Representations: Two representations received in support of the trees removal, one from a neighbour at 31 Albert Road and one from the resident of number 30 Albert Road. The reasons given for support are that the tree roots are causing problems to the nearby properties and to the profile of the footpath and road.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a prominent feature in Albert Road, and makes a contribution to the street scene and the Southwick Conservation Area.

The tree is single stemmed to 3 metres, where it then divides into four main stems. The main stems have been reduced several times in stages from 8-11 metres, the current re-growth being approximately 1 metre in length. Historically one main stem appears to have been lost or removed at the 8 metre crown break, which has resulted in some small secondary growth at this point.

The proposed works are to fell and not replace the tree. The tree, although in reasonable condition is restricted in its growth and development and due to its proximity to the nearby buildings and due to the large expansive roots and root buttresses; the trees retention is not sustainable. Therefore it would not be recommended that this tree is protected.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall number size and form of trees in the area and would not significantly or adversely affect the appearance, amenity value or character of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application, only, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA, 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: 30/01/2015

Authorised by: PD Date: 30.1.15