Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 06/06/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0510/25**
Address	**7 Hammond Close Worthing West Sussex BN13 3FH**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 1998 to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and crown lift up to 7 metres one Purple Beech tree T4.**

Date of site visit: 04/06/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a single large mature Beech tree, which has become enclosed in a small rear garden of the development Hammond Close. The tree is part of a Tree Preservation Order that includes 20 individual trees and 4 groups of trees. Hammond Close is adjacent to Durrington Hill, which is an area of Worthing that has a forested character that is enhanced by this and the other trees of Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.8 of 1998.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread and to crown lift.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: One representation received in support of the proposed work.

Relevant Planning History

1998: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 8 of 1998 confirmed on 08/05/0.

2010: Construction of 9 No. 2 and 3 bedroom houses together with associated car barns, car parking and landscaping. (Resubmission of planning application WB/09/0386/FULL Woodlands and Whitsend)

2013: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 8 of 1998 to crown reduce height by up to 3.5 metres and to crown reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 metres on one Purple Beech tree (T4).

Planning Assessment

The Purple Beech T4 is one of several large mature trees growing on the raised grounds to the east of Durrington Hill. The tree is prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 3 metres, where it then divides into two stems that each mostly persist to the top. The uniformly dense crown breaks at around 4 metres, and has some

defects such as fused branches, some large pruning wounds and deadwood. The main crown is very dense and widespread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 3 metres, and crown lift up to 7 metres. The works are to reshape and contain the spread of the tree 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: 06/06/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 10.06.2025