Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 27/11/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1259/23**
Address	**14 Longlands Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NT**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.46 of 2003 to reduce radial spread to West 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, remove dead wood and crown thin 15% Beech and Sycamore trees (in rear garden of property) of group G1.**

Date of site visit: 23/11/23

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a group of large tall mature Beech and Sycamore trees located in the Eastern half of the rear garden The trees are visible from both the public bridle way of Charmandean Lane and from Longlands, and are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread to West, crown lift, crown thin and remove dead wood.

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

Consultations: Letter sent to The South Downs National Park, who responded with "No Comment".

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 46 of 2003 confirmed on 29/01/2004.

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 46 of 2003 for a 4m crown lift to Beech trees within group G1.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.46 of 2003 to reduce by 20% wayward branch towards property on one Beech Tree in rear garden adjacent to northern boundary (part of Group G1)

Planning Assessment

The trees are a large mature Beech and Sycamores growing in the rear garden, which are part of a group of mature protected trees that run the length of Charmandean Lane, from the Upper Brighton Road to the southeast corner of Hillbarn Golf Course.

The trees are around 20 to 22 metres tall, with mostly slender (for age and height) single stems that are clear to 7 to 8 metres, and that persists to within 3 to 4 metres of the tops. The two Beech trees to

the West of the group have the widest spread, extending toward the main building. The main crowns are close but not combined and dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to West 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, remove dead wood and crown thin 15%. The works are to contain the spread of the trees allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crowns.

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: 27/11/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 27/11/23