Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 22/11/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0998/24**
Address	**9 Gorse Avenue Worthing West Sussex BN14 9PG**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 1997 to prune to allow clearance to cables of up to 2 to 3 metres and crown lift up to 4 metres Silver Birch T5, reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 to 3 metres one Ash-leaved Maple T6 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 4 metres Norway Maple T7.**

Date of site visit: 29/10/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to three trees in the front garden of the property. The trees are part of a group which is part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to prune to allow clearance to cables and crown lift Silver Birch T5, reduce crown height and radial spread Ash-leaved Maple T6 and to reduce crown height and radial spread and crown lift Norway Maple T7

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

1997: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 37 of 1997 confirmed on 11/08/97.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.37 of 1997 to crown lift by removing first 3 lowest branches one Ash leaved Maple T6, and to crown lift up to 3.5 metres one Silver Birch tree T5.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 37 of 1997 to remove one diseased Silver Birch tree (T8) from north-west corner of rear garden.

Planning Assessment

The trees are three medium sized matures: a Silver Birch close to the pavement of Gorse Avenue, adjacent to the vehicular access, a Ash-leaved Maple on slightly raised ground to the West of the front garden, and a Norway Maple which is closest to the main building, on the boundary between 9 and 7 Gorse Avenue. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The trees are:

Silver Birch T5
The Silver Birch tree T5 is located in Northeast corner the lawn area adjacent to the entrance driveway and the public footpath of Gorse Avenue. The tree has a single stem that is clear to 3.5 metres and divides into multiple mostly upright stems at 5 metres. The main crown is mostly upright with minimal radial spread.

The proposed works are to crown lift up to 4 metres, giving access beneath the tree, and allowing a clearance to the adjacent pavement, and to prune to allow clearance to the adjacent cables.

Ash-leaved Maple T6
This tree is in the middle of the front garden on the boundary between the lawn and the driveway/parking area. The tree is single stemmed to 2 metres where the first of three significant lateral limbs emerge. The main crown is dense and wide spread, with some low boughs on the east side across the lawn area of the front garden.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 to 3 metres, to contain the size and spread of the tree.

Norway Maple T7
The Norway Maple tree T7 is located to the West of the raised lawn, between the parking area and the boundary wall. The tree has a single stem to 2 metres, where it divides into 2, each stem dividing several more times to the top. The stems are mostly upright forming a tight array. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended and low hanging laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 4 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree crown, and allow access beneath 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: 22/11/2024

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 22/11/2024