Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 24/09/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0896/25**
Address	**17 Taw Close Worthing West Sussex BN13 3PQ**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.45 of 1995 to reduce radial spread to East and Southeast by up to 1.5 to 2 metres one English Oak tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 09/09/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature English Oak tree in the rear garden of number 17 Taw Close. The tree is a part of an established linear group of trees, which are part of in the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread to East and Southeast one English Oak tree T1.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: One representation received from a nearby neighbour suggesting more works should have been applied for and that the trees are dangerous.

Relevant Planning History

1995: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 45 of 1995 confirmed on 09/01/96.

1998: Application under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No 45/1995 to crown thin by 20% one Oak tree (T1); crown lift to 3.5 metres and remove dead wood throughout the crown.

2002: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 45 of 1995 to crown thin by 20% and dead wood Oak tree (T1) at the rear of No. 17 Taw Close and Oak tree at the rear of No. 18 Taw Close.

2012: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 45 of 1995 to remove lowest (tertiary) branch and reduce cluster of small branches on next highest limb (av. 1/2 - 1" in diameter) by approx. 1 metre towards No. 16 Taw Close, on one English Oak (T1) in north-west corner of rear garden.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.45 of 1995 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 to 3 metres, crown lift up to 7 metres, and crown thin by up to 15% English Oak T1, to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 to 2 metres, and removal of lowest secondary limb on one English Oak T2 in the rear garden of No.18 Taw Close.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature English Oak growing close to the Northwest corner of the rear garden. The tree is prominent to the area and can be seen from many views.

This tree is visible from the public footpath that links Taw Close, to Arun Close. The tree is single stemmed to 3 metres, where it then becomes twin, with the main stems dividing from 5.25 metres, into several large limbs that support some wide spread horizontal limbs to the east and Southeast. The main crown is dense and wide spread with a slight imbalance to the eastern and southern aspects.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread to East and Southeast by up to 1.5 to 2 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree, re-balance the crown and allow more light and air to pass 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: 24/09/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 24.09.2025