Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 04/12/23**

Application Number	**AWDM/1311/23**
Address	**38 Longlands Worthing West Sussex BN14 9NN**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.46 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres two Beech trees T1 and T2 of group G4 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres, one Beech tree T3 of group G4.**

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 three trees in a linear group from the northwest to the Southeast of the rear garden of 38 Longlands. The trees are part of group G4 which is a line of 35 mature trees that run along the rear gardens from number 32 to number 44 Longlands, which are a prominent part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Beech trees T1 and T2 of group G4 and to reduce crown height and radial spread and crown lift one Beech tree T3 of group G4.

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 did not respond.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 46 of 2003 confirmed on 29/01/04.

2016: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.46 of 2003 to crown lift up to 6 metres three Beech trees of group G4 and fell and replace one Beech tree group G4

Planning Assessment

The trees are three large matures growing in the rear garden of the property adjacent to a Public footpath / right of way that runs between the rear gardens of Longlands and the nearby Hill Barn Golf course. The trees are prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.The trees are:

<u>Beech T1 of G4</u>
This tree is located in the Northwest corner of the sloped rear garden. The tree has a single stem to 10 metres where the main crown develops, with the first limbs emerging from 8 metres. The main crown is dense and modestly wide spread.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres two Beech trees T1 and T2 of group G4 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres, one Beech tree T3 of group G4.

These works are to contain the size and spread of the tree crown, abate nuisance allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

Beech T2 of G4
The Beech tree T2 of G4 is growing near the centre of the rear boundary, at the top of the inclined grass area, The tree is single stemmed to 14 metres where it then divides into several slightly twisted and distorted secondary stems, with the first limbs emerging from 8 metres. The main crown is dense and wider spread than T1.

The proposed works for both Beech trees T1 and T2 are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and allow more light and air to pass their crowns.

Beech T3 of G4
This is the largest and tallest of the tree trees, which is located slightly further South along the Eastern boundary. The tree is single stemmed to 14 metres where several stems emerge with two main larger scaffold stems. The first limbs emerge from 8 metres mostly on the South and Southeastern aspects. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals that are close to the main building and some lower hanging branches.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres and crown lift up to 5 metres, the works are to contain the size and spread of the tree to allow access beneath the crown and allow clearance to the adjacent building.

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: 04/12/2023

Authorised by: PB Date: 4/12/23