Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 08/05/19**

Application Number	**AWDM/0653/19**
Address	**14 Roman Crescent Southwick West Sussex BN42 4TY**
Proposal	**Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell Walnut tree (T1) in rear garden in Southwick Conservation Area.**

Date of site visit: 08/05/19

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium sized early mature Walnut tree located near the south east corner of the rear garden. The tree is a part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to fell the tree.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: Two representations from nearby neighbours in objection to the works, both suggesting it is not required and should be refused.

Relevant Planning History

1976: The Southwick Conservation Area was first designated in June 1976 and included three distinct and separate areas 'The Green and Church Lane' area covered all buildings surrounding The Green and including the buildings on the corners of Cross Road, Roman Crescent, Southdown Road, Southwick Square, The Twitten, Watling Road, Victoria Road/Park Lane, Albert Road and Oldfield Crescent.

2013: Section 211 Notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Atlas Cedar and to crown thin by up to 20% one Walnut tree in the Southwick Conservation area

Planning Assessment

The tree is growing in a paved area in the rear garden, where it can be seen from the mostly private access roadway that links Roman Crescent to Southwick Street. The tree has twin stems from ground level: a main larger diameter central stem and an angled outward smaller secondary to the south. The stems are both clear to 2 metres, with the main crown breaking at 4 metres. The main crown is slightly sparse and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The crown has previously been reduced as an all-round reduction, and has a number of small cavities, and dead branches. The main branches on top, north and northeast sides of the crown have

up to 0.3 metres of die back, with the leaning secondary stem supporting most of the unaffected new growth. There are several dead main limbs and signs of cracking bark at the base of both stems.

The proposed works are to fell, due to gradual decline and general poor condition. The tree in my opinion does not meet the standards required for a Tree Preservation Order, therefore it is recommended that consent be given.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall number of the trees in the area and would not significantly affect the appearance, amenity value, or the character of the Southwick Conservation Area.

Recommendation

Grant Consent, Not subject to Conditions:

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

Yes – as the tree is not suitable for preservation the application has to be allowed.

Case Officer: JDS Date: 29/05/2019

Authorised by: PB Date: 29/5/19