Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 06/02/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/1536/24**
Address	**Street Record Amber Close Shoreham-by-Sea West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.13.53/2/93 (SU) of 1993 to reduce crown height by up to 6 metres and reduce radial spread up to 2 metre, to previous points, 9 Poplar trees T35 to T43, and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, and crown lift up to 2.5 metres one Cherry tree T7.**

Date of site visit: 05/02/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a row of tall mature Poplars located along the southern boundary wall between Amber Close and St Giles Close, and a single Cherry tree 7 to the Northeast of East Lodge. The trees are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the Southlands Conservation Area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread to previous points, 9 Poplar trees T35 to T43, and to reduce crown height and radial spread, and crown lift Cherry tree 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

1993: Adur Tree Preservation order Number 13.53/2/93 (SU) of 1993 made.

2015: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order 2 of 1993: 13.53/2/93 (SU) to fell and replace one Horse Chestnut tree T14 and to pollard at 6 metres one Horse Chestnut tree T15.

2017: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 1993: 13.53/2/93 (SU) to crown lift up to 4 metres, reduce radial spread by 1.5 to 2.5 metres and remove epicormic growth on two Horse Chestnut trees T17 & T18, to crown lift up to 4 metres two Horse Chestnut trees T9 & T19 to crown lift up to 4 metres, reduce crown height 3 to 4 metres, reduce radial spread by 1.5 to 2.5 metres remove epicormic growth and prune to clear lamp by up to 0.5 metres one Horse Chestnut tree T10, to reduce crown height 2.5 to 3.5 metres reduce radial spread by 1.5 to 2.5 metres and remove epicormic growth two Horse Chestnut trees T11 & T13, and to crown lift up to 3 metres and remove epicormic growth on one Horse Chestnut tree T16.

2017: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.2 of 1993: 13.53/2/93 (SU) to reduce height and radial spread by 3 metres crown thin up to 15% and remove dead and dying wood from one Horse Chestnut tree T23.

2017: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order No.13.53/2/93(SU) of 1993 to reduce radial spread on west side by up to 2 metres on one Norway Maple T33, to fell and replace one Norway Maple T34 and to fell without replacement one Hawthorn T6.

2018: Application for consent under Adur Tree Preservation Order 13.53/2/93 (SU) to reduce by up to 4m to create framework for future growth to 9 Poplar trees.

Planning Assessment

The trees T35 to T43 form a linear group that runs from the Southeast corner toward the entrance to Amber Close. The nine trees are very tall mature Poplars growing on a wide grass verge adjacent to the southern boundary, and form a tall screen between the properties of Amber Close and St Giles Close. The single Cherry tree T7 is located in the Northeast corner of the small lawn area outside of East Lodge, near the boundary walls to the Parking area and the pavement of the Upper Shoreham Road.

The trees are:

<u>Poplar Trees T35 to T43</u>
The nine trees are mostly single stemmed to 8-9 metres, where they have been formatively pruned. This has resulted in an array of tall stems with some slightly wider outer stems, that each support the long slender re-growths. The main crowns are mostly upright, moderately dense and wide spread.

The proposed works for all nine trees (T35 to T43) are to reduce crown height by up to 6 metres and reduce radial spread up to 2 metres, to previous points. The works are to contain the size and spread of the trees and allow more light and air to pass the crowns.

<u>Cherry T7</u>
This tree has a single stem to 1 metre, where it then divides into two main stems and several smaller stems and limbs. The two larger stems both divide again at 2 metres. The tree has several dead or damaged limbs and some that are in contact with the boundary wall. There is also a fruiting body present at the base (Ganoderma). The main crown is dense and wide spread with some slightly over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1.5 metres, and crown lift up to 2.5 metres. These works are to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow access and clearance 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 Southlands Conservation 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:06/02/2025

Authorised by: PB Date: 7/2/25