Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 21/08/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0746/24**
Address	**Corvill Court 29 Shelley Road Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 1.5 metres one Norway Maple tree T18.**

Date of site visit: 18/07/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature Norway Maple located near the centre of the northern frontage of Corvil Court. The tree is one of several trees that are a prominent part of the street scene and make a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread Norway Maple tree T18.

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

1996: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 15 of 1996 confirmed on 020/03/201904.

1999: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order no. 15/1996 to remove one branch of Cherry tree (T22) overhanging roofs of garages. Refused.

2002: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to crown lift one Himalayan Cotoneaster (T17) and one Norway Maple (T18) to give a ground clearance of up to three metres; prune back to perimeter wall and crown lift to give a ground clearance of three metres over pavement and road one Yew tree (T20)

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 15/1996 to crown lift to 2.5 metres above ground level one Himalayan Cotoneaster (T17) and one Yew tree (T20)

2007: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 15 of 1996 for minor pruning to maintain canopy shape to one Cotoneaster (T17); minor crown thin (10%), reduce branches extending over highway and balance canopy to Norway Maple (T18), minor formative prune to Purple Leaved Plum (T19); remove epicormic growth around base giving clear trunk to 2 metres, prune back long limbs to shape canopy to Common Yew (T20).

2018: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.15 of 1996 to reduce overhanging branches on south-west side by up to 1.5m to one Sycamore tree (T21).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Norway Maple growing in the front grounds garden adjacent to the pavement of Shelley Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem that is upright to 3 metres then angles to the Northeast to its division at 5.5 metres. The first laterals emerge from 2 metres to 3 metres, and are large and wide spread. The main crown is dense and very wide spread with many over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 1.5 metres. The works are to contain the spread of the tree and allow clearance around 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: 21/08/2024

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 21.08.2024