Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 13/08/19**

Application Number	**AWDM/1046/19**
Address	**72 Freshbrook Road Lancing West Sussex BN15 8DA**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 13.53/4/93(L) to reduce radial crown by 3m to 4m on north side and height of Sycamore Tree (T1).**

Date of site visit: 29/07/19

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a medium to large mature Sycamore located at the southeast corner of the rear garden of 72 Freshbrook Road, where it straddles the boundary with number 74. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to greatly reduce the height and spread of the main crown.

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

Consultations: Letters sent to Lancing Parish Council, who stated that they have no objections.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1993: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 13.53/4/93(L) of 1993 made on 22/12/1993.

1997: 30% Crown Reduction And 10% Crown Lifting Of Sycamore Tree (Tpo 13.53/4/93/L)

2004: Felling Of Sycamore At Rear (Subject To Tpo 13.53/4/93/L) Refused.

2011: Thin canopy by 15%, crown lift to 4 metres and reduce branches to east by 1 metre of Sycamore at rear of No.72 (subject to TPO 13.53/4/93/L)

Planning Assessment

The tree is a medium to large mature growing in the rear garden. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a single stem to 2 metres, where it then becomes twin with each stem dividing into several at 3 to 3.5 metres. The main scaffold stems form a wide array that supports many long laterals. The main crown is dense and widest spread toward the north and northeast, with many overextended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce the crown height by up to 4 metres and reduce radial spread on the north side by up to 3 to 4 metres. These works appear to be overestimated and have been changed by conditions.

The amended works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, and allow more light and air to pass through 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

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1 The proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to;

i Reduction in radial spread of 2 to 3 metres, 3 metres on the longest most extended limbs.

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: 16/08/2019

Authorised by: PB Date: 16/8/19