Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 08/12/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/1038/25**
Address	**St Georges Gardens Church Walk Worthing West Sussex**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.12 of 2003 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres Lime tree T1.**

Date of site visit: 02/10/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to one large mature Lime tree T1, located near the pedestrian entrance from Church Walk. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres Lime tree T1.

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

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

2003: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 12 of 2003 confirmed on 10/04/2003.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.12 of 2003 to reduce branches from building to provide up to 2 metres clearance, raise crowns to 4 metres, thin crown by 15%, reshape (up to 1 metre) to two Lime trees within Group G1 on Selden Road boundary.

2009: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 12 of 2003 to crown lift one Lime (T1) by 2 metres over garden and pavement and remove deadwood and crown lift one Corsican Pine (T2) by 1 metre over pavement at St Georges Gardens; and to crown lift one Lime at 20 Selden Road by 1 metre on south side over car park of St Georges Gardens (part of Group G1)

2017: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 12 of 2003 to crown lift to 5 metres over road and to 2.5 metres over footpath one Corsican Pine T2.

2022: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 12 of 2003 to crown lift up to 4 metres, and crown clean one Lime tree T1, and to reduce radial spread on south side by up to 1.5 to 2 metres, and crown clean one Corsican Pine tree T2.

2024: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.12 of 2003 to crown lift up to 5 metres Lime tree T1, and to thin five selected limbs to the North by up to 30%, and reduce radial spread to South by 0.5 meters (to a height of 4 metres) one Corsican Pine T2

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large tall mature Lime, located on the centre of the southern boundary of the grounds adjacent to Church Road. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has a large diameter single stem to 3 metres, where it then becomes twin, with each stem dividing again at 6 metres. The first limbs emerge from 5.75 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 2 metres, to contain the size and spread of the tree and allow more light and air to pass 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: 06/01/2026

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 06/01/2026