Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 14/08/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/0713/25**
Address	**49 Poulters Lane Worthing West Sussex BN14 7ST**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 1998 to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, and crown thin 20% Purple Beech T3 and to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, and crown thin 20% Beech tree T4.**

Date of site visit: 06/08/25

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to two trees in the front garden of 49 Poulters Lane Worthing. The trees are part of an established group of trees, which are part of the street scene and make a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread crown thin and crown lift Beech trees T3 and T4.

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

1988: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 21 of 1988 confirmed on 16/09/88.

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 1988 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and prune to clear telephone cables by up to 1 metre one Purple Beech tree T3, and one Common Beech tree T4.

2015: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 1988 to reduce radial spread by up to 2 metres, and prune to clear telephone cables by up to 1 metre one Purple Beech tree T3, and one Common Beech tree T4.

2019: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.21 of 1998 to crown lift to 5m, radial spread reduced by 3m and height reduced by 3m to 2no. Beech Trees (T3 and T4)

Planning Assessment

The trees are two large mature Beech trees growing in the front garden of 49 Poulters Lane adjacent to the main through road of the A2032 which leads to the Littlehampton Road. The trees are part of several large mature trees that line this part of Poulters lane. The trees are;

T3 Purple Beech
This is a single stemmed tree to 4 metres where the main stem narrows and divides into several smaller stems, with the first laterals emerging from 5 metres. The main crown is dense and wide spread with the main scaffold limbs being mostly upright.

The proposed works for this tree are to reduce height and radial spread by 1 to 1.5 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres and crown thin up to 20%. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

T4 Beech
This tree is a slightly larger tree with a single stem that extends to 6 metres where it then divides into multiple stems, with a large central stem persisting to the top of the crown. The main scaffold limbs are also mostly upright, with the wider spreading branches being smaller secondary laterals. The main crown is dense and wider spread and taller than Beech tree T3.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height and radial spread by up to 1 to 2 metres, crown lift to 5 metres and crown thin up to 20%. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree, allow access beneath, reduce overhang to neighbouring driveway 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 trees and would not significantly or adversely affect their appearance, amenity value, or 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: 14/08/2025

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 14/08/2025