Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 04/04/2024**

Application Number	**AWDM/0070/24**
Address	**34 Offington Drive Offington Worthing West Sussex BN14 9PN**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.62 of 1997 to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 to 2 metres and remove deadwood one English Oak tree T1**

Date of site visit: 02/04/24

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

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large mature English oak located near the centre of the rear garden. The tree is a prominent part of the local landscape and makes a contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce radial spread and remove deadwood.

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

1997: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 62 of 1997 confirmed on 05/12/1997.

Planning Assessment

The tree is a mature Oak growing in the rear garden, which is one of a line of four large 100 year old Oaks in the rear gardens of 28 to 34 Offington Drive. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from several views.

The tree has a large diameter gnarled single stem that persists to 8 metres, where it then divides into several smaller upright stems. The first limbs are large, and begin to emerge from 2 metres. The overall shape of the tree is slightly squat, being wider than it is tall. The main crown is dense with a broad dome shape and some very wide spreading limbs.

The proposed works are to reduce radial spread by up to 1.5 to 2 metres and remove deadwood. The works are to contain the spread of the tree, allow more light and air to pass around the crown, and for safety and amenity reasons.

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: 04/04/2024

Authorised by: Louise Prew Date: 04/04/2024