

Application Number: TPO 3 of 2020

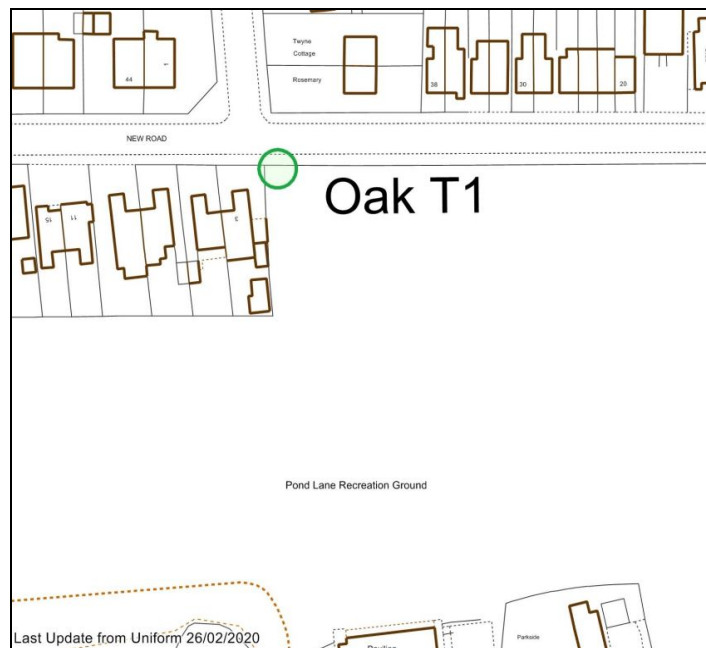
Recommendation – Approve

Site: Pond Lane Recreation Ground, Pond Lane, Worthing

Proposal: Confirmation of Worthing TPO No. 3 of 2020 Pond Lane Recreation Ground Pond Lane

Case Officer: Jeremy Sergeant

Ward: Durrington Ward



Not to Scale

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Proposal, Site and Surroundings

On the 27th April 2020 a provisional Tree Preservation Order (TPO) was placed on one Oak tree in the public open space of Pond Lane Recreation Ground.

The order refers to a single Oak tree growing in the north west corner of the recreation ground, near the front garden of 3 New Road. The TPO has been made as the Parks department had concerns that works might be carried out to the tree by owners of the adjacent property or their agents or tradesmen. The tree is a feature of the area, and is considered important to the visual amenity and character of the area that it is maintained appropriately.

Relevant Planning History

None

Representations

One letter of objection has been received from the owner of 3 New Road. The neighbour's objection claims that the tree is damaging the nearby driveway. The objection makes no reference as to how a TPO would affect any remedy or responsibility of the tree owner. As a protected tree the normal neighbour rights of cutting back to the boundary will not apply as all works would need prior consent.

Relevant Planning Policies and Guidance

Worthing Core Strategy 2006-2026 (WBC 2011): Policy 16

Worthing Local Plan (WBC 2003) (saved policies): H18

National Planning Policy Framework

Circular 04/07 'Tree Preservation Orders: A Guide to the Law and Good Practice' (DETR 2000).

Planning Assessment

The tree is a good specimen that meets the tests for Tree Preservation Orders: the Adur and Worthing Council Tree Preservation Order – Survey and Decision Guide, as agreed by the then Joint Planning Committee. The reason for protecting this tree is that it is an established feature of the area, and its removal or inappropriate works would be detrimental to character and visual amenities of the street scene.

The tree is a large mature growing near the northwest of the recreation ground. The tree has three main stems from 3 metres that form the main widespread crown. The main crown is a-symmetrical, with most of the weight to its eastern side.

The Tree Prevention Order is to ensure that any future works can be controlled by the Local Planning Authority. This is not always possible with trees that are in a public open space, as neighbours can cut back to their boundaries and carry out other works from their own land. Therefore in the interests of local amenity it is recommended that the TPO is confirmed.

Recommendation

That Worthing Tree Preservation Order Number 3 of 2020 be confirmed as made.