CONSERVATION AREA NOTIFICATION

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO:**CA/25/0025: Castle Copse, 70 Roman Road Steyning**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:

Steyning Parish Council has indicated no objection to the proposed removal of the two Ash trees but have raised an objection to the removal of the Filed maple and the Sycamore trees on the grounds of insufficient information.

No additional representations have been received in respect of this notification.

ASSESSMENT:
All of the trees the subject of this notification are located on the public footpath No. 2730, east of the residential properties on Roman Road. Except for the Ash T1, which is located on part of the castle rampart.

Both of the Ash T1 and T4 are showing signs consistent with infection with Hymenoscyphus fraxineus the fungus that causes ash dieback, a chronic fungal disease of ash trees in Europe characterised by leaf loss and crown dieback in infected trees. as such their removal is considered to be prudent on safety grounds.

The Field Maple T2 and the Sycamore T3, are located atop the bank at the rear of No. 73 Roman Road. Due to their location, about the heavily wooded area to the east on the ramparts, the trees bear the hallmarks of what is best described as woodland edge trees. Whereby they have been suppressed by the better-established tree to the east, which has resulted in the main foliage-baring branches being located over the garden of No. 73.

T2 and T3 do not represent good examples of the species, due to their poor form and heavy crown bias to the west. Although they can be seen by walkers using the adjacent footpath, they do not stand out as individual specimens with any special or particular merit, as such T2 and T3 are not of the quality to justify their retention and protection under a TPO.

Accordingly, it is not considered necessary or appropriate to protect the trees in question with a tree preservation order (TPO) to prevent the works from being completed as proposed..

RECOMMENDATION:
No objection to notification.

Authorising Officer sign……ANBU……***Arboricultural Officer (Strategic Planning)***

Date……14 Apr 25…