DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/25/1056: 10 Woodlands Walk Mannings Heath Horsham.**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:
Nuthurst Parish Council has stated no objection to this proposal.
No additional representations have been received in respect of this application.

ASSESSMENT:
1. The tree subject of this application is a mature English Oak tree situated in the rear garden of Woodlands Walk, Mannings Heath. The tree is subject to statutory protection under Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No.0947/98, designation T1 of the Order.

2. The proposed works seek consent for the removal of three lower secondary limbs from the subject oak tree. The removal of these limbs will not result in any harm to the structural integrity or long-term health of the tree. The works are minor in nature and will not adversely affect the tree's ability to thrive, nor will they diminish its prominence or visual contribution within the wider landscape. The overall form, stature and visibility of the oak will remain unchanged, ensuring that there is no direct loss of public amenity as a result of the proposed pruning.

3. With regard to the proposed crown reduction of three metres, it is noted that this would extend beyond the existing pruning points. Such an approach would not accord with the current industry best practice, as outlined within BS 3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations. Excessive reduction beyond previous pruning positions can lead to unnecessary large wound surfaces, increased potential for decay, and the production of excessive reaction regrowth, all of which may compromise the long-term condition and appearance of the tree.

4. Accordingly, while a reduction may be appropriate to manage the crown, it is recommended that the extent of works be limited to a lighter intervention that reflects the tree's historic pruning points. This approach would ensure continuity of good arboricultural management, maintain a natural crown form, and secure the ongoing health and amenity value of the tree, in line with both best practice guidance and the statutory protection afforded by the Tree Preservation Order.

RECOMMENDATION:
Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
1. TR2 *Time limit, 2 years*
2. TR3a *Treeworks limit (bespoke)*
   The tree work to which this consent relates shall be limited to:
   - Remove 3 x low lateral branches back to the point of attachment as specified in the application form.
   - Crown reduce tree by trimming branches to the existing pruning/growth points by up to no more than 2 – 2.5m, leave a well-balanced crown.
3. TR4 *Surgery standards*

TINF1 *Note to applicant.*
TINF2 *Wildlife protection.*

DELEGATED

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

Date……21 Aug 25…