

Heritage Statement – Upgrading and Re-surfacing of Existing Car Park

Storrington Squash Club, Greyfriars Lane, Storrington – (DC/25/2110)

Site and Context

The application site comprises the existing surfaced car park serving Storrington Lawn Tennis Club, accessed from Greyfriars Lane. The site lies within the wider setting of the Storrington Conservation Area and in proximity to listed buildings whose significance derives primarily from their historic fabric, form, and relationship to the surrounding village context. The car park is an established, long-standing feature of the site and is clearly associated with the lawful recreational use of the squash club.

Description of the Proposal

The proposal involves the upgrading and resurfacing of the existing car park, together with parking bay delineation, an entrance barrier, and minor hard and soft landscaping. No extension of the car park footprint is proposed, and there is no increase in intensity of use.

Impact on Heritage Assets

The works are limited in nature and confined entirely to an existing developed area. The proposal does not affect historic buildings, alter established views, or introduce built form that would compete with or detract from the character or appearance of the conservation area or nearby listed buildings. Given that the proposal retains the existing function, layout, and scale of the car park, its impact on the significance of heritage assets is assessed as neutral.

Materials and Appearance

The resurfacing will utilise conventional, subdued materials appropriate to a functional car park setting. These materials will not introduce visual discord and will sit comfortably within the existing character of the area. Landscaping proposals are modest and intended to soften the appearance of the car park rather than formalise or urbanise it.

Policy Context

The proposal aligns with national and local planning policy objectives that seek to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of conservation areas and protect the setting of listed buildings. Given the limited and maintenance-focused nature of the works, the proposal is considered compliant with these objectives.

Conclusion

The proposed resurfacing and upgrading of the existing car park will preserve the character and appearance of the conservation area and the setting of nearby listed buildings. The works are proportionate, appropriate, and result in no harm to designated heritage assets.