DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/24/1621: 4 Bramber Close, Horsham.**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:
North Horsham Parish Council has stated no objection to this proposal, subject to the considerations of the HDC Arboricultural Officer, and requests that if feasible, the felled trees be replaced with an appropriate native species in a suitable nearby location.

A single objection has been received in respect of this application, on the grounds that the trees may be covered by TPO/0036.

ASSESSMENT:
1. The trees the subject of this application are located in the rear garden of 4 Bramber Close, on the edge of and within the area order ref TPO/0036, served on 06-02-1973. The trees in question are of an age where they were present in the area when the TPO was served, and therefore protected by default of their location with the designated area covered by the order.

2. The form part of a line of old filed boundary trees, that were retained when the area was developed for residential use in the 1970s. From the southwest within Bramber Close, the tops of the trees can be seen over the roofs of number 4 &5 Bramber Close, from this aspect when viewed as a single group they are considered to have a good level of localised amenity value when viewed with the local landscape context.

3. From the northeast, within Holming End, only the tree listed as T84 on the application form and site plan visible in its entirety and has a high level of public amenity and landscape value. However, when viewed from this aspect because of the o good level of mature tree cover in the area trees T81 and T82, are not overly visible and only make a minor contribution to the group of trees in the area.

4. Due to their location and paling density trees T81 and T82 have been suppressed the better-established trees in line, as a result T81 is heavily leaning, and the bulk of the foliage barring branches are located over the garden areas of no. 4 and 5 Bramber close. T82 is a slander poorly formed specimen, which has been subject to some fairly robust surgery in the past which has further denuded its overall visual quality and when assessed as an individual tree it is not highly visible within the local or wider landscape, it only make a modest contribution to the tree line. Neither of the trees are rare or have any special or particular merit such as being ancient or veteran trees, and due to high number of more prominent, trees in the area, it is considered that they have limited future potential to make a significant contribution the amenity of the area.

5. With any application to fell a protected tree a balancing exercise needs to be undertaken. The reasons put forward for the works and trees quality must be weighed against the resultant loss to the amenity of the area. in this instance, the justification for the removal of T81 and T82, rests mainly on the trees poor form and limited landscape value. As such, despite their reasonable size and fair health, it is accepted that both trees only make a small contribution to the area's visual amenity; they are background trees that blend in with the other mature trees at the property. If they were felled, there would be no significant loss or impact to the wider landscape. As such the trees do not have sufficient public amenity value, to justify its continued protection.

6. In addition, the removal of T81 and T82 would create more space for the retied trees in the area to fill out and compensate for the loss of T81 & T82, for this reason it is not considered to be necessary or appropriate to insist on replacement planting.

7. It is considered that the proposed works to T84 are reasonable and justified given the trees location with regards to no. 5 Holming End, if undertaken with care and in accordance with the current industry standard B3998 the works should result in any harm to the character and amenities of the locality.

RECOMMENDATION:
Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
1. TR2 *Time limit, 2 years*
2. TR3 *Treeworks limit (standard)*
3. TR4 *Surgery standards*
TINF1 *Note to applicant.*
TINF2 *Wildlife protection.*

DELEGATED

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

Date……10 Dec 24…