DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/23/1669: 2 Pollards Drive Horsham.**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:
One comment of objection has been received form a Horsham resident who has stated that they believe that the tree in question is a health mature specimen; they have objected to the application on the grounds of loss of general amenity, over development and loss of trees and landscaping.

ASSESSMENT:
1. The tree, the subject of this application, is located within the rear garden of the applicant's property. The constraint TPO/0054 refers to a line of old field boundary trees protected on 20/10/1958 when the area was developed for residential use and the properties in Pollard Drive were built.

2. The applicant' seeks consent to fell the tree due to concerns with severe dieback and stating dead wood in the trees crown, and because the proposed removal of the tree would allow two more mature oaks on either side of the tree to grow more freely and symmetrical in the space made by the removal of the tree. They have proposed replacing the tree with a 3-foot Yew tree.

2. The tree is located on the southern boundary of the property's rear garden, abutting the properties in Danehurst Crescent. It is one of three TPO trees present at the property, and it is situated in a central location between two mature Oak's, both of which appear to be in fair condition. The public visibility of the tree is very limited due to the presence of better-established Oaks at the property, which have suppressed the tree in question; as such, it has a very moderate level of localised amenity worth when viewed within the local landscape context.

3. Upon inspection, it was apparent that the Oak interacted for removal is in terminal decline; there is a high percentage of standing dead wood throughout the crown, and it is less than 20% foliated. Additionally, there is also a section of difunctional necrotic bark at its base on the western side and signs of fungal decay in the lower stem were observed, although no fungal fruiting bodies were visible during my visit; despite this, it is acknowledged that fungal decay is likely to be a contributing factor to the trees decline, judging from the extent of dieback and standing deadwood in the crown.

4. The proposed works are considered to be reasonable and justified for the reasons provided, and the removal of the tree will not result in an unacceptable loss of amenity to the locality due to the trees' limited public visibility. Given the limited space in the area where the tree is proposed to be removed and the presence of better-quality protected trees at the property, a replanting condition attached to the consent to fell the tree is not considered necessary or appropriate. However, should the tree owner wish to plant a replacement tree on their property, they are free to do so.

RECOMMENDATION:
Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
1. TR2 *Time limit, 2 years*
TINF2 *Wildlife protection.*

DELEGATED

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

Date……04 Dec 23…