DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/25/0333: Colomba Bianca Kithurst Lane Storrington.**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:
Storrington and Sullington Parish Council has stated no objection to this proposal.
Two representations have been received form neighbouring properties in respect of this application, both of which have registered no objection to the proposed works

ASSESSMENT:
1. The tree the subject of this application is located in the front garden/ parking area at the property. The constraint is TPO/0214, an area order served n the late 1970s, the Douglass Fir tree in question is considered to be of age where it would have been present with the designated area covered by the Order, and therefore is a protected tree.

2. Due the trees' location it is visible within the surrounding landscape and contributes, to some degree, to the local character. However, upon inspection, it is evident that the tree, while mature, does not represent the best example of its species. Its form is irregular, with a notably uneven crown structure and signs of historical storm damage and pruning that have affected its natural shape. Furthermore, there is evidence of minor dieback within the canopy, indicating potential early decline or reduced vitality. These factors reduce its long-term contribution to the visual and ecological amenity of the area.

3. This view is shared by several supportive comments submitted as part of the consultation process, which reinforce the notion that the tree, although noticeable, does not merit retention at all costs. These comments reflect a shared recognition among local residents that the tree's overall quality and health are limited, and that its removal would not result in a significant negative impact on the character of the locality.

4. It is also worth noting that a significantly better specimen oak tree exists at the front of the property. This tree is of higher arboricultural quality and provides a more prominent and positive contribution to the street scene. It is healthier, better formed, and highly visible from public rights of way in the area, thus making it the principal arboreal feature at the front of the property. As such it is considered that the presence of this better-quality Oka tree will appropriately mitigate any potential loss of amenity resulting from the removal of the Douglass fir tree. In fact, its dominance within the landscape ensures that the site will retain a high level of green character and ecological value. Therefore, in this instance, it is not deemed to be necessary or appropriate to insist on a replacement tree.

RECOMMENDATION:
Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

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

DELEGATED

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

Date……02 Jul 25