



Mr T Mason
Masons Tree Management
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Frances Martin
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9 February 2023

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning, Development & Regulatory Services

Dear Mr Mason

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT THE SCOUT HUT, JEFFERSON CLOSE, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 73/03.**

Thank you for your application of 7 January 2023, regarding the above, with accompanying Arboricultural Report from White Knight Tree Care & Consultancy, dated 29 August 2022.

Further to my meeting on 24 January 2023 with Roy Gordon and my colleague Andrei Nazare, you are aware of the subsequent email exchange with David White to clarify works to one Sycamore (T48 of the survey). In addition, works to one Willow (T032 of survey; T21 of TPO) were added to the application on site (as works were recommended in the survey). Other works included in the survey but where trees were not listed in the application form have also been included so that the applicant has approval for those works, which can be carried out at any time (subject to timing conditions) over the two-year period for which the consent is valid. This avoids another application within that time period.

I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Crack Willow (T032 of survey; T21 of TPO) - re-pollard back to previous pollard points. Please note condition 3.
- Oak (T036 of survey; T8 of TPO) - reduce west side by 1-2m to lessen end weight (*tree identified in photograph at the end of this letter*)
- Oak (T042 of survey; T9/T10 of TPO) - reduce northern most branches by 1-2m to lessen end weight
- Oak (T044 of survey; T9/T10 of TPO) - reduce eastern most branches by 1-2m to

lessen end weight *[intention to remove dead wood is noted]*

- Sycamore (T048 of survey; T21 of TPO) - Selectively reduce approximately 6, extended limbs in the mid crown, at the westernmost point on the canopy by approximately 1-2m to bring them back in line with the crown average (*refer to annotated photograph at the end of this letter*)
- Oak (T051 of survey; T19 of TPO) - prune to provide 2m clearance from roof *[intention to remove dead wood is noted]*
- Ash (T072 of survey; part of G2 of TPO) - fell (*tree identified in photograph at the end of this letter*). Please note condition 5

The intention to remove dead wood from T026 Sycamore (T17 of TPO), T045 Ash (T11 of TPO), T052 Sycamore (T18 of TPO), T054 Oak (part of G1 of TPO), T057 Ash (part of G1 of TPO), T062 & T063 Silver birch (part of G1 of TPO), T066, T071 & T075 Ash (part of G2 of TPO) is noted.

The intention to fell and grind out stump of the monolith Maple tree (T10 of survey; T14 of TPO) is noted. The felling of this tree was dealt within 2016 and included within the decision notice for application 161981 was the following:

Work to fell T14 - Norway maple is exempt under the Tree Preservation Order because this tree is considered to be dead and/or dangerous. On my site visit it was noted that the tree has a large area of bark necrosis at the base with no notable 'compartmentalisation' or adaptive growth around the wound site. The canopy is in advanced decline with large areas of deadwood in the crown and premature abscission (leaf drop).

Under Section 206(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, a landowner has a duty to replace a tree which is removed because it is dead or dangerous. The duty on the landowner is to plant another tree of an appropriate size and species at the same place as soon as he or she reasonably can.

At our site visit we agreed to your proposed replanting of a Beech sapling which is to be relocated from the south east boundary of the site and replanted towards the front of the site in the vicinity of the felled Norway Maple.

The duty to replant still applies and as the tree was not removed in 2016, it is assumed that the relocation of the Beech did not occur. It therefore needs to be ensured that a replacement is provided - details should be agreed with the Natural Environment Team.

Conditions

1. Five days' notice in writing shall be given to the Council prior to undertaking the approved works.

Reason: To ensure that the Local Planning Authority is given sufficient notice of the works to enable the effective monitoring of tree work within the Borough.

2. All tree surgery shall be in accordance with BS 3998: (2010) Tree Work - Recommendations.

Reason: To ensure that all works are carried out in an acceptable arboricultural manner

3. The approved re-pollarding of Crack Willow (T032 of survey; T21 of TPO) shall be undertaken in mid-late Summer (July - September) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height or during the Winter months of December - January during the period of dormancy.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle and in order to avoid any unnecessary detriment to the tree as a result of the pruning work.

4. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees, except on trees to be felled.

Reason: Spikes can cause extensive long-term damage

5. Following the felling of the Ash tree (T072 of survey; part of G2 of TPO) authorised by this consent, one native or naturalised broadleaved tree of a minimum 6-8cm girth and 2.5m in height shall be planted within garden of the Scout Hut during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest. The species shall be agreed with the Natural Environment Team prior to purchase and planting.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

Informatives

1. You are advised that, in accordance with Part 4, 17 (4) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, this decision is valid for one pruning operation (as per the approved specifications) to be undertaken within two years from the date of this notice, after which the consent lapses and a new application will be required.

2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However written notice must be given 5 working days in advance of removing dead wood. Where a branch is deemed to be 'dangerous', i.e. where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

3. Disturbance of wildlife: It is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to disturb roosting bats or nesting birds. It is advisable to consult your tree surgeon/consultant to agree an acceptable time for carrying out any work. Wildlife and

habitat controls are administered by Natural England who can be contacted on 0300 030 6000

4. It is best to avoid works in the period immediately before or during bud burst and leaf fall to minimise the effect on the long-term health of the tree

5. Tree work consents on land not owned by the applicant: It is strongly recommended that the owner of the tree be advised of any proposed works. The owner's permission must be sought if the tree works involve work past the boundary line. This consent does not in any way imply that this Council has informed the owner of sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.

6. Trees not considered to be protected by the current Tree preservation order: Work can be carried out to this tree without the formal consent from this Council.

7. Prior to the severing of well-established Ivy at the base of the tree, it would be prudent to carry out an assessment of whether any of the stems of the Ivy are forming a natural brace above a suspected bark-included union

If you wish to appeal against any of the conditions attached to this consent, please contact the Planning Inspectorate within 28 days of receipt of this letter to obtain the relevant forms:

Trees and Hedges
Room 3A Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Telephone: 0303 444 5000

E-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Website: [Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas)

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer

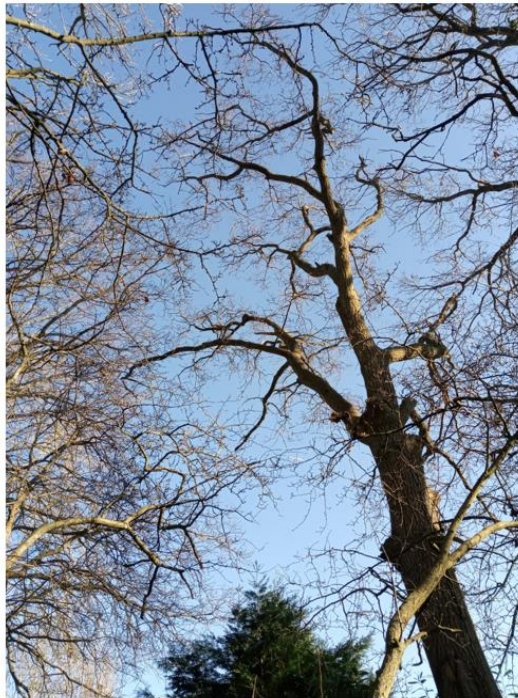
C.c. Roy Gordon, Scout Association



Sycamore (T048 of survey; T12 of TPO)



Ash in G2 to be felled



T36 / T8 TPO Oak