

Ms R Wasylciw
41 Surley Road
Emmer Green
Reading
RG4 8LU

Frances Martin
Director for Economic Growth
and Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: 230194/TCA
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎ 01189 372440
Email: sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

24 March 2023

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

Dear Ms Wasylciw

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 41 SURLEY ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 15 February 2023 with accompanying photographs, relating to the above.

Further to my visit of 14 March 2023, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Front garden - Cut back and reduce height of the conifers to front and side of front drive (same as previous trims).
- Side Garden - Pollard trees to the same height as previous pollard.
- Rear Garden - Reduce height of conifers and crown lift bottom branches of Sycamore.
- Front garden - Remove Maple (cited as a Sycamore your notice) in drive as shed it is growing through is falling apart (*N.B. shed had been removed at the time of officer's visit*).

The reduction of the conifers, re-pollarding and lifting of the lower branches of the Sycamore are deemed to be reasonable management so are agreeable. The Maple is no longer impacting the shed, which had been removed prior to my visit. You advised that the reason for removal was to allow more space for parking. This would not have been accepted as a valid reason to remove a high quality tree given the space available in your drive. However, the Maple is not a specimen worthy of a Tree Preservation Order hence we offer no formal objection.

This decision is valid for two years from the date of this letter, after which it lapses.

No works should be carried out within 6 weeks of the date of your notice, i.e. before 29 March 2023.

As you will appreciate, trees contribute significantly to the character of Conservation Areas, often giving them verdant feel, therefore they are priority areas for tree retention and planting within the aims of our Tree Strategy; another aim being to increase canopy cover in the Borough. As such, it would be positive for you to consider replacement planting to avoid the loss of canopy cover and help maintain the character of the area.

Informatives

1. 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 060 3900; enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

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