



Mr O Speakman  
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Frances Martin  
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Our Ref: 220953/TPO  
Your Ref:

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23 August 2022

Your contact is: **Andrei Nazare, Planning, Development & Regulatory Services**

Dear Mr Speakman,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE LIME TREE AND ONE NORWAY MAPLE TREE AT 8 GORSELANDS, EMMER GREEN, READING - T3 AND T4 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 39/06.**

Thank you for your application of 29 June 2022, regarding the above.

You have applied to carry out the following tree work on protected trees:

- Lime tree (T1 on application; T3 on TPO) - entire crown reduction by approximately 2 metres to help contain the crown spread; thin by approximately 10% removing only rubbing and crossing limbs up to 25 mm to reduce the crown density and sail effect; remove any dead and dying wood along with stumps.
- Norway maple 'Crimson King' (T2 on application; T4 on TPO) - crown lift to 2.75 metres for head clearance, and to only remove secondary limbs hence no cuts larger than 25-40mm

On 15 August 2022 my colleague Sarah Hanson and I visited 8 Gorselands to see the trees.

In relation to the Lime (T1 on application), the disproportionate lateral growth on the lower half of the crown makes it difficult to apply the proposed reduction equally throughout the crown. While a 2m reduction on the overextended lower crown appears reasonable, this is too much for the much narrower upper part of the crown and is not agreeable. Please find below the lesser works approved for this tree.

The removal of dead and dying wood does not require permission - please see informative 2.

The works proposed for the Norway maple (T2 on application) are agreeable.

In conclusion, I can confirm that the following amended works, with reference to the annotated photographs, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Lime tree (T1 on application; T3 on TPO) - height reduction back to previous reduction / pollard points (approx. 2-3m) and lateral reduction to create a flowing crown line, back to previous reduction points where applicable, and bringing in the lower crown; crown thin by approximately 10% removing only rubbing and crossing limbs up to 25 mm to reduce the crown density and sail effect. [Officer note: *the lower crown extends further laterally, as seen in the photographs below, than the upper crown hence reduction extent will not be uniform throughout*]
- Norway maple 'Crimson King' (T2 on application; T4 on TPO) - crown lift to 2.75 metres for head clearance over the adjacent footpath, only removing secondary limbs hence no cuts larger than 25-40mm

1. Photographs illustrating the lateral extent of lower crown



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. 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

4. The approved canopy reduction 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.

### 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

### Appeals

If you are aggrieved by any of the conditions attached to your consent, you may appeal to The Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Because of coronavirus (COVID-19), you currently can only make a planning appeal online. You cannot currently apply by post.

For more information go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-preservation-order-appeal-form>

Telephone: 0303 444 5570 or e-mail it to:

[treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Your appeal should be received within one month of receipt of this decision or any such longer period as the Planning Inspectorate may allow.

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

Yours sincerely,

*Andrei Nazare*

Andrei Nazare  
Assistant Natural Environment Officer  
C.c. Mr J Dudley (via e-mail)