



Miss P.P. Phoon
37 Send Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG4 8EH

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 211900/TPO
Your Ref:

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

25th January 2022

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning

Dear Miss Phoon,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO A TURKEY OAK ON LAND AT 37 SEND ROAD, READING, RG4 8EH - PROTECTED UNDER TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 187/06.

Thank you for your application dated 23rd November 2021, regarding the above.

Further to the Tree Consultant's (Sarah Duckworth) visit on Thursday 20th January 2022, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

Approved Tree Works

Turkey Oak

- Reduce branches growing towards the conservatory (north) to provide reasonable clearance to property. This was agreed at the Tree Consultants site meeting that this equates to a reduction to the north side of the canopy by approximately 2-3m back to previous reduction points.
- Remove epicormic growth on main trunk (as agreed at the site meeting) to approximately 7m above ground level.
- Remove deadwood

Officer Advisory

At the Tree Consultant's site visit it was recorded that the Turkey Oak is a large and prominent tree with good bud density indicating good physiological health. However, the tree has multiple fungal fruiting bodies of the wood decay fungus *Ganoderma* at the base of the tree. This fungus causes a white rot decay around the base and roots of affected trees, and in advanced stages can undermine the stability of the tree.

The area affected by decay currently appears to be contained to the north to north-east side quadrant of the tree base and the remaining area of the base currently appears to be in good structural form.

The presence of this fungus is a significant structural defect (particularly on Turkey Oak) for which there is no cure. In view of this, you are recommended to obtain further arboricultural advice from a suitably qualified Arboricultural Consultant regarding the ongoing management of the tree. Advice on finding a professional can be found on the Council's website at: www.reading.gov.uk/trees

The Borough Council would recommend that a Picus tomographical Survey be undertaken (a form of internal decay detection). This technology uses the relative velocity of sound waves, induced across the stem of a tree, to construct a two-dimensional picture (tomogram) that shows zones of different sound-transmission properties. The zones are colour-coded and indicate degrees of degradation of wood within the tree trunk and the presence of decay or cavities.

Following this assessment, a further reduction of the tree's canopy may be considered necessary. Any further works following the survey will require a new application to be submitted to Reading Borough Council for consent.

Conditions relating to the approved works

1. 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

2. 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

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

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

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

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer