



Mr J Smith
Big Heart Tree Care
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Frances Martin
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Our Ref: 212064/TPO
Your Ref:

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17 February 2022

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning

Dear Mr Smith

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE HORSE CHESTNUT AND ONE BEECH TREE AT 35A EASTERN AVENUE, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 66/05.

Thank you for your application of 20 December 2022, regarding the above and your clarification email of 29 December 2022. Thank you for the annotated photographs which are helpful in visualising the proposed pruning.

I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the annotated photographs provided (reproduced at the end of this letter):

- Horse chestnut (T1 of application; T7 of TPO) - crown reduce by 1 - 1.5 metres, back to suitable growing points
Reasons: to allow more light into the garden and to alleviate weight in the crown due to multiple decay pockets present. I also note that the tree appears to be a lapsed pollard, hence reducing the crown is also appropriate management [N.B. the indicative reduction shown in the annotated photo appears more than 1-1.5m - this measurement should take precedence over the photographs. Please also note the timing condition - given the early leafing nature of this species it is particularly important not to carry out the reduction at this time]
- Beech (T2 of application; T6 of TPO) - crown thin by a maximum of 20% and reduce lower branches that overhang garden
Reason: to improve light into the garden

Other trees within your submissions are subject to conservation area status and are dealt with separately under tree works Notice 201047/TCA.

Please ensure your client receives a copy of this decision without undue delay (no details were provided on your application).

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 canopy reduction of the Horse chestnut shall only 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

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 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. 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: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.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

