



Mrs. Gem Tomlinson
Leasehold Court Manager
Woodrow Court
45 Church Road
Reading
RG4 7AQ

Frances Martin
Director for Economic Growth
and Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 210718/TCA
Your Ref:

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07th May 2021

Your contact is:

Andrei Nazare, Planning

Dear Mrs. Tomlinson,

RE: PROPOSED FELLING OF ONE SYCAMORE TREE AT WOODROW COURT, CAVERSHAM, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your notification of 7th May 2021, regarding the above.

Further to your e-mails and photographs of 6th and 7th May 2021, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Sycamore tree - fell to ground

From the information and photographs you provided the tree appears to be dead or dying and you stated the majority of its crown was lost following heavy winds during the weekend of 1st and 2nd May 2021. The windthrown crown caused some property damage and you wish to fell the remaining of this tree to mitigate the risk of further damage.

Under Section 213 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, a landowner is under 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.

In this case the Council would expect one replacement native and/or wildlife friendly tree of a minimum 10-12cm girth and 3m in height to be planted within the curtilage of

Woodrow Court in the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of felling, whichever is soonest. The species should be agreed with the Council prior to purchase and planting.

Woodrow Court benefits from a considerable number of trees within its curtilage and we recommend regular tree inspections should be scheduled every 3 to 5 years to monitor their condition and to mitigate any further risk of failure.

Normally, the agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 18th June 2021. However, considering the condition of the tree in this case and it's recent, partial failure, carrying out the works as soon as it can be arranged would be acceptable.

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

Informatives

1. 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'.

2. 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,

Andrei Nazare

Andrei Nazare
Assistant Natural Environment Officer