



Mr. David White
White Knight Services Ltd.
5 Cressingham Road
Reading
RG2 7RS

Frances Martin
Director for Economic Growth
and Neighbourhood Services

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Our Ref: 210782/TCA
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
Email: andrei.nazare@reading.gov.uk

8th June 2021

Your contact is:

Andrei Nazare, Planning

Dear Mr. White,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE WILLOW TREE AND ONE YEW TREE AT 4 BROWNLOW ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your notification of 17th May 2021, regarding the above.

Further to your e-mail exchange with my colleague Sarah Hanson on 18-19 May 2021 and the submitted photographs, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Willow in front garden (T1): fell
- Yew in the rear garden (T2): reduce height by approximately 5 metres and face trim all sides

With regards to the Willow tree, I note its proximity to the building, its poor form and its location in an overcrowded bed, therefore felling to avoid future conflict with the building and to create sufficient space for the retained trees is considered reasonable, as the tree is not suitable for a Tree Preservation Order.

Your application and clarification e-mail state the extent of the face trim of the Yew on the boundary side will be small, no more than 30cm, and up to a couple of metres on other side, but without creating bald patches in the hedge i.e. retaining greenery on all sides, which is desirable in order to maintain amenity value and is, therefore, acceptable. For the record, tree works Notice 200871, submitted by 2 Brownlow Road in June last year

included the following works to the same Yew tree: '*prune to back to boundary to provide clearance from 2 Brownlow Road*'. You stated these works have not been completed yet and you will carry out the works agreed on the two occasions at once.

The agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 28th June 2021.

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

As one tree is to be lost, we request consideration of at least one replacement tree somewhere within the curtilage. One of the aims of the Council's Tree Strategy is to increase canopy cover in the Borough by 2030 and to achieve this, the Council needs help from residents across the borough as we cannot achieve it on Council land alone. As you will appreciate, tree coverage in a Conservation Area is of particular importance, with trees providing their verdant character.

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

C.c.
Mr. David Richmond
4 Brownlow Road (via e-mail)