



Mr. Hugo Loudon  
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Frances Martin  
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26<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Your contact is:

Andrei Nazare, Planning

Dear Mr. Loudon,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT ST MICHAELS CHURCH, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 28/07.**

Thank you for your tree works application of 19 October 2020 regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 26 October 2020, I can confirm that the following works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

1. T5 Yew
  - a. Reduce eastern radial spread over road by a maximum of 2m to suitable secondary growth points tapering into height.
  - b. Lift to 5m over road to ensure statutory highways clearance is maintained.
2. T14 Ash
  - a. Lift to 5m over road
  - b. Prune away from light providing a minimum 1m clearance where possible targeting secondary growth points only, ensure uninterrupted light splay to road.
3. T18 Flowering Cherry
  - a. Fell to ground level, leave stump in location
4. T19 Oak
  - a. Remove two lowest branches to source
  - b. Lift remaining lower branches to 2m targeting secondary growth points

In relation to T10 Monterey Cypress included in the application, I note that no works are

proposed.

A separate response to the issue with the wall adjacent to T8 (Lawson Cypress) will be provided.

The works to trees subject to Conservation Area status are dealt with separately under application 201474/TCA.

### 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. Following the felling of T18 Cherry authorised by this consent, one *Crataegus persimilis* 'Prunifolia' (broad-leaved cockspur thorn 'Prunifolia') of a minimum 10-12 cm girth and 3 metres in height shall be planted within a 5m radius of the felled tree during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

## 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
  5. Tree work consents on land not owned by the applicant: It is strongly recommended that the owner of the tree be advised of any proposed works. The owner's permission must be sought if the tree works involve work past the boundary line. This consent does not in any way imply that this Council has informed the owner of sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.
  6. Removal of any dead or dangerous protected tree: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However you are required to give 5 days notice of the work where it is not an emergency, to allow the Council to agree that the proposed works are exempt from requiring consent. The exception is where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', in which case you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.
- Once felling of a dead or dangerous tree has been carried out, the owner has a duty under Section 201(b) of the Town & Country Planning Act to replant another tree of an appropriate size and species in the same place as soon as they reasonable can. This replacement tree will be covered by the existing Tree Preservation Order. The new tree would be subject to the same requirements for a tree works application if you intend to carry out works upon it in the future.
7. Crown lifting of trees over the footpath and carriageway: If the clearance of

vegetation overhanging the highway only involves the removal of branches to give a ground clearance to the statutory heights of 2.7m over the footpath and 5.5m over the road, this does not require formal consent from the Council. You are advised, however, to give notice to the Council of these intended works in order that they can be agreed.

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:

The Environment Appeals Team, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 3/25, Hawk Wing,  
Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN  
Email: [environment.appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:environment.appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0117 372 8192

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. David Bardwell