



Mr N Wilson
Beechwood Tree Care Ltd
The Barn
2 Playhatch Farm Cottages
Playhatch
Oxfordshire
RG4 9QX

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 201497/TPO
Your Ref:

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

11 November 2020

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning

Dear Mr Wilson

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT READING SCHOOL, ERLEIGH ROAD, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 15/11.**

Thank you for your application of 26 October 2020 with accompanying Tree Safety Audit & Management Strategy Report, reference 1130.bjh.June20, and subsequent photographs to support the application.

Through our exchange of emails from 26 October to 4 November we clarified 1) which trees/works fell under the 'dead, dangerous' exemption, 2) which TPO trees were relevant to this application and 3) confirmed the work specification to those trees.

I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Scarlet oak (T12 of survey; T6 of TPO) - prune to give 1.5m clearance from lamppost
- Holm oak (T37 of survey; T25 of TPO) - prune to give 2m clearance from the building

You confirmed in your email of 26 October that no work to other protected trees, as specified in the survey, was being undertaken at this time - this specifically relates to T29 and T30 of the survey (T29 and T27 of the TPO respectively).

The following work falls under the 'dead, dangerous' exemption, as the trees are dead, hence formal approval for the felling is not required:

- Cypress oak (T11 of survey; T7 of TPO) - fell
- Monkey puzzle (T57 of survey; T18 of TPO) - fell

There is a duty to replant where trees are felled under this exemption - please note Informative 5 below. Please ensure that the species are agreed with the Council prior to purchase and planting. For clarity, as felling is taking place in the near future, we will expect the replacements to be planted in the current planting season, i.e. before the end of March 2021.

I note the intention to remove dead wood from trees across the site.

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

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. 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

3. 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

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. Trees not considered to be protected by the current Tree preservation order: Work can be carried out to this tree without the formal consent from this Council.

8. Prior to the severing of well-established Ivy at the base of the tree, it would be prudent to carry out an assessment of whether any of the stems of the Ivy are forming a natural brace above a suspected bark-included union

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:

Trees and Hedges, Room 3A Eagle Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol , BS1 6PN

Telephone: 0303 444 5570

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

C.c. Jonathan Roberts, Reading School