



Mr. and Mrs Herdman

Via email: sidmackem@gmail.com

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 201435 / TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
sarah.duckworth@reading.gov.uk

Date: 2nd November 2020

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr and Mrs. Herdman,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TWO FIELD MAPLE TREES AT 4 GRAVENEY DRIVE,
CAVERSHAM, READING BERKSHIRE, PROTECTED AS T2 AND T3 OF TREE PRESERVATION
ORDER NUMBER 98/05.**

Thank you for your application dated 6th October 2020, regarding the above.

I visited the property on Monday 26th October 2020 in order to view the trees and assess your tree works application.

You have applied to carry out a 3-4m canopy lift on two mature Field Maples to the rear of 4 Graveney Drive. Having viewed the trees, I consider that a selective canopy lift to give 3m clearance above ground level would be satisfactory and could be undertaken sympathetically without any significant harm to the health or amenity value of the trees. However, the proposed canopy lift to 4m would greatly increase the size of the pruning cuts which would act as potential entry points for decay pathogens. Furthermore, a 4m canopy lift would reduce many lower branches beyond the existing foliage line creating long branch stubs. These would be unlikely to regrow satisfactorily and thus the proposed 4m canopy lift would be potentially harmful to the amenity of the tree.

Therefore, for the reasons given above your application to carry out a canopy lift to 4m above ground level has been refused. Consent has been granted to raise the canopy to give 3m clearance above ground level subject to the conditions below:

Approved Tree Works

T2 & T3 - Field Maple

- Crown lift to give 3m clearance above ground level, cutting back to the nearest suitable reduction points.

Conditions

1. 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

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

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.

If you wish to appeal against the refusal of consent to raise the canopies of T2 and T3 (Field Maple) to 4m above ground level or against any of the conditions attached to the permitted works, 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

Email: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Tel: 0303 444 5570

If you suffer any loss or damage as a result of this refusal of consent, you may be entitled to recover compensation from the Council. If you wish to make a claim you must do so within 12 months from the date of this decision (or, if you appeal to the Secretary of State, within 12 months from the date of his decision). Claims should be made in writing to the Insurance Section, Reading Borough Council, Civic Centre, Bridge Street, Reading, RG1 2LU.

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SD' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sarah Duckworth
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer

cc. Lois Heighes, Romans Estate Agent (via email)
Mr and Mrs Wallis, 4 Graveney Drive, Caversham RG4 7EG