



Mr S Arnold
Tree Solutions Arboricultural Ltd
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Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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Our Ref: 201080/TPO
Your Ref:

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14 September 2020

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Arnold

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TWO TREES AT 4B ADDINGTON ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 34/01.

Thank you for your application dated 8 June 2020, received on 29 July 2020, regarding the above.

As per my acknowledgement email of 29 July 2020, the address given on the application form (4 Addington Road) does not exist. It appeared, from my site visit, that both trees were in the garden of No. 4b.

Following my visit on 20 August, I queried a number of things in my email of 24 August 2020 and made some suggestions for additional, minor work. Your email of 26 August 2020 provided clarification and agreement to the amendments.

Further to my visit on 20 August 2020, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your amended application, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the attached photographs:

- Sycamore (T1 of application; T19 of TPO) - remove lower, epicormic growth; remove crossing/rubbing branches; crown lift to 6m (secondary & tertiary branches only). N.B. crown lifting is likely to only be required on North (house) and west (road) side and, in relation to the main branch adjacent to the lamppost, should focus on growth hanging down, as the main branch itself may be lower than 6m.

- Horse chestnut (T2 of application; T18 of TPO) - remove epicormic growth on lower trunk; remove crossing/rubbing branches; reduce the main branch growing towards the road, with tear-out wound at base, by 1.5m.

It would be prudent to sever Ivy on both trees. This is especially important for the Horse chestnut, along with the removal of epicormic growth, to ensure future inspection of the large, tear-out wound can be carried out.

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. This decision is valid for two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses

4. 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

5. Crown cleaning should not include the removal of fused natural braces (branches or stems), or the removal of entwining branches or rubbing branches (where they may be forming a natural brace) from the crown of a semi-mature to fully mature tree without carrying out an assessment of any junctions formed below such natural braces.

Reason: Removal of natural braces may lead to failure of weak unions.

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

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 or sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.
5. 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.
6. 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

Email: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
Tel: 0303 444 5570

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