



Mr P Lasenby
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Frances Martin
Executive Director for
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Civic Offices, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 200432/TPO
Your Ref:

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

6 April 2020

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Lasenby

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TWO DOUGLAS FIRS TREES AT 22 SHEPHERDS LANE, READING - PART OF G2 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 92/002.

Thank you for your application of 11 March 2020, regarding the above. Please note that the trees in question are Douglas fir trees, as specified in the TPO, and not Larch, as specified on your application.

I understand that my colleague Sarah Duckworth has given verbal advice to Mrs Ferne. In addition, I also viewed the trees in question when visiting 24 Shepherds Lane in January this year.

The reduction of the live Douglas fir in question was primarily to remove the 'leggy' top section in poor condition, bringing the height down to the main crown. This may or may not be 4m, as per your application but I can confirm that the following work is approved subject to the conditions below:

- Douglas fir - reduce in height as indicated by the red line in the photograph below:



In relation to the dead Douglas fir (right-hand tree in the photo below) - the intention to fell is noted. Please note Informative 3 below regarding replacement planting.



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

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. 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, i.e. in the planting season (Oct-March) following or at the time of felling, whichever it soonest [it is prudent to agree the replacement with the Council]. 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.

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

Tel: 0117 372 8192

Due to the current working restrictions, we are unable to post a copy of this decision to your client. Please ensure that you provide her with a copy without undue delay.

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