



Mrs Hannah Williams
Heights Tree Care
Mayfield
Hazelmoor Lane
Gallowstree Common
RG4 9DJ

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: 211404/TPO
Your Ref:

Email: lee.garner@reading.gov.uk

5th October 2021

Your contact
is:

Lee Garner, Planning

Dear Mrs Williams,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO AN ASH TREE LOCATED TO THE SIDE OF 2 GYPSY LANE,
TILEHURST, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 2/16**

Thank you for your application dated the 17th August 2021 regarding the above.

Further to my site visit on the 14th September 2021, I have the following comments:

During my visit I noted the trees (Ash & Pine) to be outwardly healthy individuals. I noted the Pine tree to be located within the garden of 2 Gypsy Lane and therefore not be covered by the Tree Preservation Order.

With regards to the Ash tree, I noted the bark wound at its base, however there were no signs of decay or decay fungi present around the wound that would indicate the tree is being undermined and therefore requiring reduction works. Reading through the application there was no supporting information provided that would demonstrate that this tree is undermined.

In considering the requested tree works, without the required evidence, I have concerns for the impact of the reductions works on the health and amenity value of the tree.

Undertaking a crown reduction to a tree places considerable stress on a tree's health and

condition. It is important that when considering these works that the benefits of the pruning works outweigh the impact placed on the tree's health.

A crown reduction creates multiple pruning wounds throughout the canopy that are open to pathogens and decay. The trees will need to use considerable energy to contain the spread of decay and callus over the wounds, which will place considerable stress on the tree's health. In addition, it is prudent to avoid such works on Ash at this current time as they may become impacted by Ash dieback so unnecessary stress should be avoided.

In conclusion, as there has been no evidence provided that substantiates the need to undertake the proposed works, the crown reduction to the Ash tree is **refused**.

If you wish to appeal against the Council's decision on this matter, 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 it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

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

Lee Garner

Lee Garner
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer
Cc: Mr Samuels, 2 Gypsy Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 6DJ