



Mr. Paul Billyard
8 Zinzan Street
Reading
RG1 7UQ

Frances Martin
Director for Economic Growth
and Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 211795/TCA
Your Ref:

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3rd December 2021

Your contact is: Andrei Nazare, Planning

Dear Mr. Billyard,

RE: PROPOSED FELLING OF ONE SYCAMORE TREE AT 14 ZINZAN STREET, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your notification of 26th October 2021, regarding the above.

Further to your notification and following the lapsing of TPO 3/21 on 15th October 2021, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Sycamore tree - fell to ground

A Tree Preservation Order was served to protect this tree on 15th April 2021 following a previous tree works notice proposing its felling. Following the consideration of objections and after a visit to see the tree, we concluded that confirming the TPO was not appropriate due to concerns regarding the long term structural soundness of the multiple stem unions and, partly, due to heavy overshadowing of a number of gardens - where the extent of pruning required to alleviate that would be detrimental to the health and amenity value of the tree.

In light of the above, the Council considers felling agreeable but encourages you and the owner of the tree to consider replacement planting.

The felling of the Sycamore tree will result in a significant reduction in canopy cover in the area. I would point your attention to the Council's aim to increase canopy cover across the Borough for the benefit of all and as part of the response to our climate emergency declaration (it is one of the aims of the Tree Strategy). No. 14 Zinzan Street

and adjacent properties, as well as being located in a conservation area, are also within our Air Quality Management Area and within a low canopy cover Ward (as defined in our Tree Strategy) hence is in an area where replacement planting is even more important. So, if you would like to help with this objective, please consider replacement planting of one tree (ideally, two), albeit in better locations and appropriate ultimate size species for the spatial context. Let us know if you need help in choosing the species.

The agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 7th December 2021.

This decision is valid for two years from the date of this letter, after which it lapses.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Andrei Nazare

Andrei Nazare
Assistant Natural Environment Officer

C.c.
Occupier of 14 Zinzan Street