



Mr. Roger Hopkinson
3 Westonbirt Drive
Caversham
RG4 7EN

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 201519/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
andrei.nazare@reading.gov.uk

25th November 2020

Your contact is:

Andrei Nazare, Planning

Dear Mr. Hopkinson,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1 CHERRY, 1 APPLE AND 1 PEAR TREE, AT 3 WESTONBIRT DRIVE, READING - SUBJECT TO AREA TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 98/05.

Thank you for your tree works application of 29th September 2020, regarding the above.

With reference to the photographs within your email of 30 October and confirmation of proposed works in your email to my colleague Sarah Hanson on 2nd November 2020, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the photographs:

1. Cherry Tree in front garden (as viewed from the house)
 - a. Lateral crown spread reduction of up to 2 metres on the left-hand/south side, minor pruning of right-hand/north side to re-shape and reduction of east side (growing towards the house) by up to 1 metre.
2. Apple Tree in back garden
 - a. A crown reduction of 1-1.5 metres all around (estimated to be 40-50%) to suitable growing points
3. Pear Tree in back garden
 - a. Crown reduction by around 40-50% to suitable growing points

It is noteworthy to mention the substantial extent of the proposed works and the resulting probable stress to the trees (i.e. reduced capacity to do photosynthesis) and future susceptibility to pests and pathogens as a result of the creation of multiple wounds, each

being an entry point for pathogens. In normal circumstances the extent of the proposed reduction would not be approved as it goes against good arboricultural practice due to reasons above, but given that they are fruit trees, their previous management and that they are not specimens trees within the woodland, the works are deemed acceptable in this case.

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. 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. 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.

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
Telephone: 0303 444 5570
E-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.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