



Mr A Poynter
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Frances Martin
Executive Director for
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Our Ref: 201589/TPO
Your Ref:

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27 November 2020

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning

Dear Mr Poynter

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES WITHIN WOODLAND W1 AT WHITLEY RISE, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 113/08.**

Thank you for your application of 10 November 2020, regarding the above.

Further to our site meeting of 19 August 2020, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Remove all Tree of Heaven (of whatever size) from within W1. All stumps are to be poisoned to prevent regrowth, any regrowth and sucker/shoot growth to be treated with systemic herbicide (either sprayed or weed-wiped as appropriate). This should be continued for up to five years.

As detailed on your application form, these works are to prevent the shoots of the trees puncturing and damaging the playground and car park surfaces. Remedial works to the playground and parking surfaces is inappropriate until the cause of the problem (the Trees of Heaven) have been resolved.

You advised on site (and confirm in your application) that the poisoning of the stumps and re-growth will be through the use of a systemic herbicide. Given the woodland setting, I have some concern about the potential for the herbicide to pass throughout the interconnected root systems to other species of tree. Whilst it is agreed that systemic herbicide is the appropriate choice, it would be prudent to monitor the health of

neighbouring trees before each application over the 5 year period. A condition has been attached to that effect.

Conditions

1. Five days' notice in writing shall be given to the Council prior to undertaking the initial approved works (removal of trees and initial application of herbicide) and then subsequently prior to each application of herbicide.

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. Removal of trees shall be by felling to ground level with the stump and root system left in place.

Reason: to avoid mechanical damage to roots of adjacent retained and protected trees.

3. A written record shall be kept of the general physiological condition of all trees within a 10m distance of each Tree of Heaven stump/regrowth being treated i) prior to the initial works and ii) prior to each subsequent herbicide application. A copy of each record will be provided to the LPA within 14 days of each treatment. In the event that any tree(s) show marked decline or loss of vitality within the 5 year period that cannot be attributed to any other cause, all further applications of herbicide shall cease with immediate effect and the situation reviewed with the LPA.

4. 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

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 030 6000

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

4. Following the 5 year period of treatment covered by this approval, a new tree works application will be required if Tree of Heaven persists as a nuisance on site.

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

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer

C.c. Peter Mason, Bellway Homes Ltd
Rob Ash, REAch2 Academy Trust
Nick Burston, Reading Borough Council