



Sibabrata Majumdar
22 New Road
Reading
RG1 5JD

Frances Martin
Director for Economic Growth
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Our Ref: 201071/TCA
Your Ref:

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10 August 2020

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning & Building Control

Dear Sibabrata Majumdar

RE: PROPOSED FELLING OF ONE HOLLY TREE AT 22 NEW ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your email of 27 July 2020 regarding the above and accompanying photograph of the tree in question.

From the photograph provided the tree is not a specimen and will provide little wider public amenity value. As such, the Holly is not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Fell one Holly in the rear garden.

It would be beneficial for a replacement tree to be planted on the property in order to retain tree coverage within the Conservation Area and Borough as a whole.

The Conservation Area appraisal for the Redlands Road Conservation Area acknowledges the importance of trees and states:

‘..the Area is epitomised by mature properties situated in mature gardens, with extensive tree cover throughout, giving a general verdant feel to the area of buildings and trees in harmony.

Trees therefore make a significant contribution to this suburban Conservation Area’s

special character and sense of identity...'

The Council's adopted Tree Strategy aims to increase canopy cover in the Borough hence replacing trees that are lost is part of this. You may be aware that the Council declared a Climate Emergency last year; tree planting being one action we can take to help mitigate the impacts of climate change. I hope therefore that you will consider planting a new tree following the felling of the Holly.

The agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 7 September 2020.

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

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer