



Mr. N. Ruparelia
7 Mapledene
Caversham
Reading
Berkshire
RG4 7DQ

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787
Our Ref: 200654 / TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
sarah.duckworth@reading.gov.uk

Date: 27th May 2020

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning & Building Control

Dear Mr. Ruparelia,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO AN OAK TREE TO THE FRONT OF 7 MAPLEDENE PROTECTED AS T5 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 8/05

Thank you for your application dated 12th May 2020 regarding the above.

You have applied to remove the epicormic growth from the main stem of T7 (Oak).

I have been to view this tree from the public highway and note that this is a mature tree growing as part of a prominent group at the front of the property.

The tree has put on a dense area of epicormic growth around the lower canopy area. Oak trees are one of a number of tree species which put on epicormic growth in response to environmental stress. It is thought that the epicormic growth achieves a number of functions to assist the tree including the rapid creation of essential photosynthetic area as well as helping draw water and nutrients up to the canopy and branch tips of the tree.

You have applied to remove this epicormic growth because branches are beginning to fall from this growth onto the driveway, the growth is affecting some of the light at the front of the property and to enhance the appearance of the Oak

I have noted that the epicormic growth is a dense area and the branches are currently small being suppressed by the mature tree's canopy. Although there may be a case to thin the epicormic growth in the future, the Borough Council considers that this growth is currently carrying out a very important physiological function for the tree and the

removal of this growth would inevitably bring about some decline in the tree's health at this time.

The work proposed to remove the epicormic growth would therefore be potentially harmful to a significant protected tree and is unacceptable in principle. The reasons for carrying out the work in terms of light or amenity would not suffice to justify the work being carried out at this time.

I can therefore confirm that for these reasons your application to remove the epicormic growth from the tree has been 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:

The Environment Appeals Team
Trees and Hedges
The Planning Inspectorate
Room 3/25, Hawk Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6PN

Email: environment.appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Tel: 0303 444 5584

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SD' with a flourish underneath.

Sarah Duckworth
Assistant Natural Environment Officer