



Mr. Kevin Lee
Parks Team
Reading Borough Council
2-4 Darwen Close
Reading
Berkshire
RG2 0RB

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 191542
Your Ref:

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

16th October 2019

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. Lee

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO FELL A SYCAMORE ON LAND AT THE FRONT OF 51A
TILEHURST ROAD, READING -PROTECTED AS T3 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER
NUMBER 114/001.**

Thank you for your tree works application dated 24th September 2019, regarding the above.

Your original tree works application was to carry out a reduction of the T3, a large multi-stem Sycamore growing at the front of the property adjacent to the public highway.

However, from my visit on 9th October 2019 it was identified that the tree is in an advanced state of decline and extremely poor physiological condition. The foliage is sparse throughout the canopy with significant areas of apical dieback and bark necrosis on a number of branches.

The decline of the tree is likely to be as a result of its age, but exacerbated by the compromised rooting area and an area of either fungal or bacterial infection which appears to be present at the base of the tree.

The tree is considered to be in a permanent state of decline and would not respond well to the proposed canopy reduction which, I agree is required in order to address the identified hazards posed by the tree in relation to the public highway. In view of these considerations, as per your email dated 15th October, your client has decided to amend the Tree Preservation Order application to now cover the removal of this tree.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application and amended in your email dated 15th October 2019, are approved subject to the conditions below:

Approved Tree Works

- T3 - Sycamore
Fell to ground level.

Conditions

1. 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

2. Following the felling of the tree (s) authorised by this consent, 1x broadleaf tree 2-3m tall or conifer 1-2m tall shall be planted within the front garden during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest.

The replacement tree should be a medium to large growing tree, the species of which shall be agreed in writing with the Borough Council prior to purchase and planting.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

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. 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

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:

The Environment Appeals Team, 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: 0117 372 8192

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

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Duckworth
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer