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Mrs G Hollands
Smallwood Countryside Contractors
Meade Park
Sonning Lane
Sonning
Reading, RG4 6ST

Our Ref: 190295/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
Email: sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

11 March 2019

Your contact
is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mrs Hollands

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 11 GLEBE ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE
PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 78/08.**

Thank you for your application of 18 February 2019, regarding the above.

During my meeting on site of 5 March 2019 with Mr Woods and Jon Hollands, the False acacia (T3 of TPO) was inspected and found to have significant internal, basal decay which could be assessed from an open wound on the north side of the trunk. In addition, it was evident that the tree has lost its main leader at some point in the past, with the central area now being dead with associated decay. It is likely that a column of decay exists from this area to the base. It was therefore determined on site that the felling of the tree would be reasonable, hence the application was amended to include the felling of this tree as opposed to a 40% reduction.

I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your amended application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- T3 False acacia – fell
- T4 Indian Bean tree – crown lift by removing two, pendulous branches growing over the lawn. The need to remove of one dead branch was noted. Please refer to the attached photographs.

Whilst on site we discussed the two non-TPO False acacia on the eastern boundary. I suspect that these were not included in the TPO due to their poor form; the northern tree being multi-stemmed with tight forks and the southern of the two having a pronounced lean over the garden with two main stems which have crossed and have been growing/rubbing together for some time. The felling of these trees would be reasonable if desired. As discussed, given that the garden is directly adjacent to a Conservation Area and in a generally verdant area, replacement planting is encouraged. Replacement planting for the TPO False acacia is required (note condition 5 below)

We had a brief discussion on potential replacement species (for the TPO tree at least) and Maple was suggested. This genus would be acceptable but the species should be of a medium to large size to replace the amenity lost by the removal of the False acacia.

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. This decision is valid for two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses

4. 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

5. Following the felling of the tree authorised by this consent, one broadleaf tree of a minimum 10-12cm girth and 3m in height shall be planted on the same eastern boundary during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest, the species of which shall be agreed with the Council.

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. 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
3. 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
4. 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 or sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.
5. Trees not considered to be protected by the current Tree preservation order: Work can be carried out to these trees without the formal consent from this Council.

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 Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer

C.c. Mr K Woods, 11 Glebe Road