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Mr S Bee
Bee Tree Services
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Our Ref: 190073/TPO
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5 February 2019

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Bee

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT PROSPECT SCHOOL, COCKNEY HILL, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 109/02.**

Thank you for your application of 14 January 2019, regarding the above, supported by the Tree Works Specification from Bernie Harverson.

Further to our site meeting of 25 January 2019 with Mr Aslam, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application and clarified on site, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- 2520 Oak – Prune to clear street light in Cockney Hill by up to 1.5m. The intention to remove major dead wood is noted.
- Alley leading from Cockney Hill to Haywood Way (between the school and 72 Cockney Hill) – Fell small Ash and larger (3-stem) Ash, 1 Elm, 2 small Oak at fence line and cut back or remove small trees within 1m of fence line; prune mature Oak level with No. 72 Cockney Hill back to appropriate growing points approximately in line with school fence
- 2521 Oak – intention to remove major dead wood noted
- 2524 Maple – intention to sever Ivy noted
- Various trees in woodland between Cockney Hill and car park – selective branch reduction to clear cables by a maximum of 2m (the amount of pruning will differ between trees).

- 2529 Cherry – fell due to poor condition
- Music car park – crown lift trees overhanging car park to 3m above ground level
- 2538, 2566 & 2567 Oak – intention to remove major dead wood is noted
- 2218 Oak – crown lift to 5m above the adjacent garden. The intention to remove major dead wood is noted.
- Cockney Hill boundary – prune back branches to provide 1m clearance (into the site) from the fence line.
- Oak & Birch young woodland – thin out woodland by removing selected small Birch and Oak. As discussed, removal will be based firstly on those individuals that are dead or in poor condition, then those with poor form and removal will focus on providing space for potentially good specimens to mature, i.e. removing surrounding individuals supressing those with good long-term potential. It should be ensured that removal is not excessive in order to still allow the young woodland structure. As suggested on site it would be prudent to identify and mark those better individuals for which management is aimed, in order that future managers can refer to these when carrying out further woodland management.

The intention to remove major dead wood from 2219 & 2220 Oak is noted – we agreed that these were outside the TPO woodland area.

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 allows implementation of the approved works once and is valid for two years from the date of this notice and, 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

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. Removal of any dead or dangerous protected tree: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However you are required to give 5 days notice of the work where it is not an emergency, to allow the Council to agree that the proposed works are exempt from requiring consent. The exception is where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', in which case you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'. Once felling of a dead or dangerous tree has been carried out, the owner has a duty under Section 201(b) of the Town & Country Planning Act to replant another tree of an appropriate size and species in the same place as soon as they reasonable can. This replacement tree will be covered by the existing Tree Preservation Order. The new tree would be subject to the same requirements for a tree works application if you intend to carry out works upon it in the future.

6. Crown lifting of trees over the footpath and carriageway: If the clearance of vegetation overhanging the highway only involves the removal of branches to give a ground clearance to the statutory heights of 2.7m over the footpath and 5.5m over the road, this does not require formal consent from the Council. You are advised, however, to give notice to the Council of these intended works in order that they can be agreed.

7. Trees not considered to be protected by the current Tree preservation order: Work can be carried out to this tree without the formal consent from this Council.

8. Prior to the severing of well-established Ivy at the base of the tree, it would be prudent to carry out an assessment of whether any of the stems of the Ivy are forming a natural brace above a suspected bark-included union

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 J Aslam, Prospect School