



Mr. Neil Wilson
Beechwood Tree Care Ltd.
2 Playhatch Farm Cottages
Playhatch
Reading
RG4 9QX

Frances Martin
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: 191721
Your Ref:

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

2nd December 2019

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. Wilson,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO A HORSE CHESTNUT TREE AT 20A CHURCH ROAD, CAVERSHAM, READING - PROTECTED AS T3 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 22/07.

Thank you for your application dated 28th October 2019, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 28th November 2019, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

Approved Tree Works

T3 - Horse Chestnut

- Reduce height by removing all growth above historic pollard knuckles leaving 1-1.5m stubs to aid regrowth.
- Remove three branches growing from the area with the large cavity on stem 1.
- Remove major deadwood (consent not required)

This consent for works to T3 (Horse Chestnut) supersedes a previous consent for a reduction of the tree which was approved on 24th May 2019 under application ref: 181983 but was never carried out.

This more recent application - 191721 is made following a climbing inspection of the

tree's canopy. The climbing inspection recorded a number of decay pockets around the historic pollard knuckles on the tree which supported the need for a greater reduction of the canopy in order to prevent significant branch failure.

The permitted work is major pruning work and will cause significant wounds throughout the tree to which the tree may not respond positively. However the Borough Council agrees that the proposed work is appropriate to allow its safe retention in the short term significantly reducing the risk of major branch failure. Follow on reductions will be required as part of the ongoing management of the tree.

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. The approved canopy reduction shall be undertaken in mid-late Summer (July - September) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height or during the Winter months of December - January during the period of dormancy.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle and in order to avoid any unnecessary detriment to the tree as a result of the pruning work.

3. 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. 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. Removal of dead or dangerous wood: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. 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'.

3. 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

Sarah Duckworth
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer