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Mr. B Nash
Berks and Hants Tree Surgeons
Hartleys
Silchester
Reading
Berkshire
RG7 2QE

Our Ref: 180495/TPO
Your Ref:

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

18th May 2018

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. Nash,

**RE: PROPOSED FELLING OF ONE HORSE CHESTNUT AT 3 NOTLEY PLACE, READING
- T18 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 50/13.**

I am writing to you with regards to your tree works application ref: 180494

You have applied to fell the large and visually significant horse chestnut (T18 of TPO 50/13) due to the tree 'moving, rotten cavity in the lower trunk and bleeding'.

Section 8 of the tree works application form requires your application to be accompanied by the necessary evidence to support the tree works proposal. If you have concerns about the condition of the tree - e.g. it is diseased or you have fears that it might break or fall, then you are required to provide written arboricultural advice or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert. Your application at present has no supporting information.

On my site visit on 18th April 2018, having viewed the tree I did note that there is a cavity which appeared to be associated with a former branch socket with good ribs of wound wood round the hole. This feature in itself would not be a concern provided the decay remained localised to the original branch 'socket' and that there is sufficient healthy supporting wood.

I have no information on this. I note that there were no fungal fruiting bodies evident at the time of my visit and that the bark around the main trunk aside from this cavity was intact. The tree was in contact with the adjacent shed and may be

partially occluding around it but this could be the result of incremental stem growth rather than an indication of instability of the entire tree.

On the 25th April I emailed you to advise that in order for your application to be determined by the Borough Council you will need to provide additional information to demonstrate the removal of this significant tree is necessary and appropriate at this time.

To date as I have had no communication from you, I must inform you that your application has been refused due to the lack of supporting evidence.

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

Sarah Duckworth

Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer

cc. Mrs S Honeybourne, 3 Notley Place, Caversham RG4 8PW