

Mr Crawford King
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Our Ref: 181746/TPO
Your Ref:

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7th November 2018

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. King,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES ON LAND AT 6 FERN GLEN SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 89/09

Thank you for your application dated 2nd October 2018 and received on 5th October 2018, regarding the above.

You applied to 'Remove some limbs and a carry out a 30% canopy reduction' to protected trees at the front of your property as you were worried that a tree or tree limb's falling could be a risk to life or serious damage to property.

The specification to 'remove some limbs' was not sufficiently specific to support your application, furthermore the proposed 30% reduction was considered to be major pruning works which would have lasting consequences for the amenity and future management of the trees. No professional arboricultural advice was submitted in support of your application.

At our meeting on 24th October we therefore discussed alternative works which would go some way to addressing the concerns you raised regarding recent branch failures from the trees and the asymmetry of many of the trees but which would keep the pruning operations to a minimum.

My appointment was to look at the tree works application only. I have not inspected the trees in detail and this is not a health and safety led tree works specification. If you have concerns regarding the stability or condition of the trees, you could consider employing an arboricultural consultant to carry out a detailed tree survey.

I can confirm that the following tree works (as amended) and confirmed in your email dated 6th November 2018 are approved subject to the following conditions:

Approved tree work

- T2 (Horse Chestnut) - Crown lift small (secondary) branches tips by 1-2m.
- T3 Robinia - Shorten pendulous branches over highway and garden by 1-2m
- T4 Robinia - Shorten pendulous branches over highway and garden by 1-2m
- T5 Robinia has dropped a significant stem - fell to ground level
- T6 Robinia - 2m reduction of lateral spread over highway
- T7 Twin Stemmed Robinia - Reduce small extended pendulous branches by 1-2m. Reduce canopy by up to 2m over the highway and footpath.
- T8 Robinia - Shorten pendulous branches over garden by 1-2m

- Also for Trees T3, T4, T6, T7 - Crown lift where necessary to give 5.5m clearance over highway.

Regarding the removal of deadwood please refer to informative 1.

Conditions

1. You are advised that this consent is valid for one pruning operation to be undertaken within two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses and a new application will be required.

Reason: To prevent excessive pruning operations which are potentially harmful to tree health.

2. 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.

3. 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

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. The works hereby approved shall only be carried out during the winter months (December - January) or summer (July - August).

Reason: Taking into account the trees' phenological cycle to reduce unnecessary harm to the trees.

Informatives

1. 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'.

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

Sarah Duckworth
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer