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Mr E Butler
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Our Ref: 180404/TPO
Your Ref:

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6 April 2018

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Butler

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO THREE TURKEY OAKS AT LEIGHTON PARK SCHOOL,
SHINFIELD ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 27/07.**

Thank you for your application of 5 March 2018, regarding the above.

Further to our meeting of 9 February 2018, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- T1 (T21 on location map provided) Turkey Oak (part of W3 of TPO) – Fell due to failure of upper portion.
- T2 Turkey Oak (part of W7 of TPO) – Fell due to presence of *Ganoderma adspersum* and likely decay/dysfunction present
- T3 Turkey Oak (part of W3) – Fell due to presence of Giant polypore and Honey fungus and likely impact on the root system.

In relation to T1, we discussed the potential to retain a stump rather than fell to ground level to provide a standing habitat given the woodland area in which they stand – the same may be possible for T3. I hope that the School will still consider this.

The felling of T2 is extremely unfortunate given the tree's location and stature but given the tree species and presence of fungal brackets for several years, the felling is reasonable, especially considering its location in a high target zone area.

Given the records of bats on the school site, please particularly note Informative 2 below.

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. Following the felling of the three Turkey Oak trees authorised by this consent, three *Quercus robur* (English/Common Oak) of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m in height shall be planted within the same Woodland areas from which trees were felled during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the trees, whichever is soonest.

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. 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.

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. Tom Sheldon, Leighton Park School