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Mr J Sutton
Fynecast Ltd
Richer Sounds
114 Oxford Road
Reading
RG1 7NE

Our Ref: 180248/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
Email: sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

2 March 2018

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Sutton

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE FALSE ACACIA TREE AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, OXFORD ROAD, READING - T5 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 168/01.

Thank you for your application of 7 February 2018, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 21 February 2018, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Crown lift to 5.5m above ground level over the church land by removing smaller branches (50mm diameter or less) back to source and by removing branch tips on the larger branches. I would expect this work to be minimal given the existing height above ground level, which is already significantly higher than the crown overhanging 114-116 Oxford Road.
- Reduce the lateral spread, back to appropriate growing points, to provide a maximum of 2m clearance from the Church.

It is noted that the crown condition of the tree is noticeably poorer on the west side than the east side. In view of this, we would like to minimise the impact of the work – please note condition 5 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. 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 not be carried out in the period immediately before or during bud burst and leaf fall.

Reason: To avoid harm to the future health of the tree.

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