



Giorgio Framallicco
**Head of Planning,
Development & Regulatory
Services**

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Dr Watkins and Dr Dyson
5 Glebe Road
Reading
RG2 7AG

Our Ref: 180994/TCA
Your Ref:

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

21 June 2018

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning & Building Control

Dear Dr Watkins & Dr Dyson

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE ELM TREE AT CHRIST CHURCH, CHRISTCHURCH ROAD,
READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for your email of 7 June 2018 regarding the tree overhanging 3 & 5 Glebe Road from the grounds of Christ Church.

Following discussions you have had with the Vicar and your neighbour, your Notice advised of the intention to cut back all branches overhanging Nos. 3 & 5 back to the boundary.

The young Elm appears to have lost its main leading stem at some point and/or has grown in a manner that has resulted in the tree being wide and not tall. Given the species and form, I would not expect this to mature into a specimen tree, hence it is not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order. As such, the Council would have no objections to its removal, which would have little to no detrimental impact on the amenity value of the area. Whilst you advised that the Church were keen to retain the tree in some form, offering no objections to your pruning, we decided on site to change your Notification to that of felling in order that you have the opportunity to discuss this further with them. You are able to carry out lesser works than that to which your notice relates; any pruning obviously being less than felling so you are free to carry out any works you desire back to your boundary (under common law) or further, with agreement from the Church.

During my visit we discussed that, given the trees location right on the boundary, pruning back to the boundary would leave the tree very one-sided so if this is the only work done, the Church may wish to consider some pruning on their side.

Further to my site visit of 19 June 2018 and our discussion, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Elm tree within the Church grounds on the boundary with 3 & 5 Glebe Road – fell.

The works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 19 July 2018.

This decision is valid for two years from the date of this letter, after which it lapses.

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. It is best to avoid works in the period immediately before or during bud burst and leaf fall to minimise the effect on the long-term health of the tree (unless felling).

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