

Stephen Arnold
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Alison Bell
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Civic Offices, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 162301/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
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11th January 2017

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Arnold,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES WITHIN BALMORE PARK AND ON LAND ADJACENT TO 22 RIDGEWAY, CAVERSHAM, READING RG4 8NX- SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 62/14.

Thank you for your application of 8th December 2016, regarding the above.

Following our meeting on 4th January 2017 and having had the opportunity to view the trees out of leaf, it has been agreed that the work originally applied for in your TPO application may not be sufficient to address the issues Mr Bowley of 22 The Ridgeway, has with regards to branches falling into his property - which was:

T1 - Oak - Selectively prune to give a minimum clearance of 2m to the house
T2 & T3 - Sycamore - Fell to ground level

In view of this a revised schedule of works was discussed and agreed at our site visit. Following our meeting, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as amended and agreed during our site meeting (and confirmed in your email of 11/1/2017), are approved subject to the conditions below:

- T1 - Sycamore - strongly leaning, suppressed Sycamore with included bark union in canopy growing towards 22 The Ridgeway - Fell to ground level and manage as coppice.
- Sycamores identified as T2 (sprayed yellow to the front) and T3 (to the rear of the property as per your plan) also groups of suckers growing beyond the boundary fence with The Ridgeway boundary - Fell to ground level and manage as coppice.
- Group 1 - Predominately Sycamore - Selectively crown clean the Sycamore trees growing within the boundary of Balmore Park adjacent to 22 The Ridgeway. The crown clean will include the removal of dead, dangerous or dysfunctional branches from the canopies of the trees where a visual inspection identifies the need. This is to include branches which have been structurally undermined by squirrel damage (bark stripping), poor branch unions or other notable defects in order to prevent branch failure at a later date.

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. 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

4. Crown cleaning should not include the removal of fused natural braces (branches or stems), or the removal of entwining branches or rubbing branches (where they may be forming a natural brace) from the crown of a semi-mature to fully mature tree without carrying out an assessment of any junctions formed below such natural braces.

Reason: Removal of natural braces may lead to failure of weak unions.

Informatives

1. You are advised that this decision is valid for two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses and further consent will be required.

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

cc. Mr Nick Holman, Chilton House, Marsack Street, Caversham RG4 5AP