

Mrs A Kirk
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Giorgio Framallicco
**Head of Planning,
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Your Ref:

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19 July 2017

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mrs Kirk

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE HORSE CHESTNUT TREE AT 118 KENDRICK ROAD,
READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 4/17.**

Thank you for your application of 18 July 2017, regarding the above.

During my visit of 18 July 2017 we discussed the form of the tree. The tree divides into two main stems at the base with a tight fork between the two stems. Each stem then divides into two resulting in a multi-stem tree. Due to the presence of the tight fork, it is reasonable to manage the size of the tree, hence weight of the two main stems. However, as discussed, the pests and diseases currently affecting this species can make it more difficult for them to respond to pruning. The pruning proposed is arguable due to the form of the tree but does come with a risk that the tree may decline following the work.

I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application and discussed on site, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Horse chestnut – reduce height by 4-5m and reduce the sides by the minimum necessary to maintain a flowing crown line; crown lift to 5m above ground level by reducing/removing minor growth only. Please refer to attached photograph which indicatively shows the proposed reduction.

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 only be carried out late July-August or December-January

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

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
Natural Environment Officer