

Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner
49 Balmore Park
Caversham
Reading
Berkshire
RG4 8PX

Alison Bell
Head of Environment &
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Civic Offices, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 180486/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
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2nd May 2018

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TWO LIMES TO THE REAR OF 49 BALMORE PARK, CAVERSHAM AND PROTECTED AS T5 AND T6 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 62/14.

Thank you for your application dated 16th March 2018, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on Wednesday 18th April, I can confirm that the following proposed works, as amended and confirmed in your email dated 26th April 2018, are approved subject to the conditions below:

Approved Works (as amended)

T5 (Lime) - reduce and crown lift the lowest main branch on the east side of the canopy by 1-1.5, using suitable reduction points. Small shoots on the main trunk below this stem are also to be cut back to the trunk.

T6 (Lime) Crown reduce to 15m (approximate height of adjacent T5) using suitable reduction points. Remove two small low branches as indicated on the attached photograph Figure 1.



Figure 1 - T6 (Lime) two branches to be removed as indicated.

Conditions

1. The reduction to T6 (Lime) hereby approved shall only be undertaken during the summer months (June / August) when the tree's reserves are at their peak or during the winter months (December / February) during the period of dormancy. On no account should any significant canopy works be undertaken to the tree in the months immediately before or after leaf break when the tree's energy reserves are lowest.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle in order to minimise the impact the permitted work will have on the long term health and vitality of the tree.

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 to trees.

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 a new application 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.

3. Reading Borough Council would not usually permit an overall canopy reduction of a protected tree. Consent to reduce T6 (Lime) has been granted based on the merits of the application, taking into account the form of the individual tree in question. It does not follow that another application to reduce the canopy of an otherwise healthy protected tree would be permitted where there is not an overriding healthy and safety reason to support such work.

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