

Mr & Mrs Gilchrist
9 Conisboro Avenue
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Our Ref: 170889/TPO
Your Ref:

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

31 July 2017

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr & Mrs Gilchrist

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 9 CONISBORO AVENUE, READING - SUBJECT TO
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 61/004.**

Thank you for your application of 1 June and emails of 28 June (with annotated photo) and 16 July 2017, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 24 July 2017, I have the following comments:

The Tree of Heaven (T3 – noted as Ash in TPO) has a notable amount of dead wood and you advised me that it has dropped branches since you moved into the property at the beginning of the year. As new owners of the property you were obviously unable to advise whether the trees' condition appeared worse than last year. As advised, it would be prudent to keep an eye out for any fungal brackets on the tree and any obvious deterioration in condition. We discussed potential pruning to provide greater clearance from the patio/decking, however as discussed it is difficult to reduce the branches of this tree due to all the foliage being on the ends of the branches. However, in addition to the proposed works, we identified several minor branches overhanging and touching the top of the non-TPO, small tree in the centre of the lawn that could be removed to give clearance between the two trees. The removal of these has been added to your application as agreed.

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

- Acer (T2 of application and T2 of TPO) – crown lift to 3m by removal/reduction of minor branches only; remove/reduce to source crossing rubbing branches with Tree of Heaven as indicated on the attached photographs
- Tree of Heaven (noted as Ash in TPO: T3 of application; T1 of TPO) - remove/reduce to source crossing rubbing branches with Acer as indicated on the

attached photographs. The intended removal of dead wood is noted.

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

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

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