



Mr. Scott Rixon
6 Hogarth Avenue
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RG30 4QW

Alison Bell
Head of Environment &
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Civic Offices, Reading, RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: 181196/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
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25th July 2018

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr. Rixon,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES TO THE REAR OF 6 HOGARTH AVENUE, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 17/10.**

Thank you for your tree works application dated 4th July 2018, regarding the above.

You applied to crown-lift two Beech trees to the rear of your property by 1m and thin the canopies by 30%. You have also applied to remove one of the two stems on the second Beech within your shed / compost area.

As I advised you at our meeting on 18th July 2018, the proposed 30% canopy thin would create numerous pruning cuts throughout the canopy and can affect the health and vitality of the tree. Thinning changes the movement and loading of retained branches in high winds and can result in branch failure. In addition, the tree will quickly regrow the lost foliage therefore any benefit to light levels in your garden will be short lived.

I also advised that the removal of one stem from T2 could destabilise the other immediately or further down the line once the trunk of the felled tree begins to decay.

In view of the above, we discussed alternative tree works which you have confirmed are acceptable and you have confirmed that you wish to amend your tree works application accordingly.

I can confirm that the following amended tree work specification works, as confirmed in your email on Friday 20th July 2018, are **approved** subject to the conditions below:

Approved Tree Work

- T1 (Beech) - 2m canopy reduction on the west side of the canopy (towards the property 6 Hogarth Avenue). Lift outer branch tips by 1-1.5m to improve lower light levels. Remove epicormic growth on the main trunk to a height of 4m. Crown Clean removing any dead / diseased branches.
- T2 (Beech) - Inspect and replace cable tie if necessary. Crown lift outer canopy tips by up to 2m to improve lower light levels and as required in order to achieve 1.5m clearance to adjacent buildings. Crown clean removing any dead / diseased branches.

Conditions

1. 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

2. 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

3. 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 one pruning operation to be undertaken within 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. 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 Duckworth

Sarah Duckworth
Consultant Assistant Natural Environment Officer