



Mr R Arnold
Tree Craft Ltd
16 Hillside Farm
Rushmore Hill
Knockholt
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Giorgio Framallicco
**Head of Planning,
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Services**

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Your Ref:

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15 September 2017

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Arnold

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO AN OAK TREE AT 20 VENETIA CLOSE, READING - PART OF G1
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 30/02.**

Thank you for your application of 2 August 2017, regarding the above.

During my visit on 1 September 2017, I discussed the proposed works with Mr Gill. The reason for the proposed height reduction of 2m was not evident and no reason for this was provided on the application. In relation to the proposed 2m lateral reduction, this was assumed to be through 360°, the reason for which was again not provided. It was appreciated that a reduction of the branches growing towards the house and over the garden would be reasonable to provide better clearance. However a lateral reduction in all directions appeared unnecessary as did a height reduction. I therefore wrote to you on 1 September (copying the email to Mr Gill) suggesting an alternative schedule of works and sought clarification on whether you were happy for the application to be amended to include only those works. You confirmed on 7 September that you were happy for the application to be amended if Mr Gill was agreeable to this. As I have not heard anything to the contrary from Mr Gill, the application is considered as formally amended to include the revised schedule of works.

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

- Oak (part of G1) - removal of the lowest branch overhanging the garden, originating from the eastern stem of the tree and reduction of the lower canopy to provide 1-1.5m clearance from the conservatory, i.e. so that these branches no longer overhang. Please refer to the attached photographs.

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

C.c. Mr Gill, 20 Venetia Close