



Ms K Wilkinson
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13 June 2017

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Ms Wilkinson

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO THREE LIME TREES AT 3 ST PETERS AVENUE, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 146/05.**

Thank you for your application of 5 June 2017, regarding the above.

Your application seeks consent for the removal of basal growth from 4 trees; 3 Limes and 1 Sycamore. During my visit on 9 June 2017, we confirmed that the removal of basal growth from the Sycamore was not required hence this is now omitted from the application, as agreed. We discussed that work to the 3 Limes over and above the removal of basal growth would be appropriate therefore the application has been amended to include this additional work of crown lifting as was agreed on site.

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

- 2 Limes (one closest to access and one on boundary with No.5) – crown lift (including the removal of basal growth) up to the main crown break. All re-growth from previous pollard/reduction points should not be removed.
- 1 Lime (central Lime) – removal basal growth and epicormic (minor) growth from the trunk up to the main crown break.

The Limes have been reduced in the past and it appears that the extensive growth at the bases and on the trunk (particularly of the '2 Limes' above) may have reduced the vigour and extent of re-growth from the reduction points. Removal of all the basal, trunk and epicormic growth will hopefully result in improved vigour of the re-growth from the previous reduction points. The work is likely to need repeating at regular intervals.

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

4. Crown lifting of trees over the footpath and carriageway: If the clearance of vegetation overhanging the highway only involves the removal of branches to give a ground clearance to the statutory heights of 2.7m over the footpath and 5.5m over the road, this does not require formal consent from the Council. You are advised, however, to give notice to the Council of these intended works in order that they can be agreed.

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