



Miss H Read
Heights Tree Care
Mayfield
Hazelmoor Lane
Gallowstree Common
Reading
RG4 9DJ

Giorgio Framalicco
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5 June 2017

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Miss Read

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE BEECH TREE AND ONE LIME TREE AT 4A THE MOUNT,
CAVERSHAM, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 124/01.**

Thank you for your application of 15 March 2017, received on 3 May 2017, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 26 May 2017, I have the following comments:

In relation to the Beech tree, the application did not specify the exact pruning to the tree in order to provide clearance from the neighbour's property. This information was requested via email on 9 May 2017 but was not forthcoming. On site, this was therefore discussed with the tree owner and we decided that pruning any branches, remaining in close proximity following the crown lifting, in order to provide 1.5m clearance would be reasonable.

In relation to the Lime, our file indicates that a reduction was last approved in 2004. Reduction back to previous points is considered reasonable management, however it is prudent for this to be carried out on a more frequent basis to limit wound size and so that reduction back to previous points is still acceptable. The previous reduction points can be seen in the photographs provided with the application as the tree was not in leaf when these were taken. There is substantial re-growth but this is crowded. Reduction back to

previous points is acceptable subject to the work being carried out at an appropriate time of year given the amount of foliage that will be removed.

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

- T7 Copper beech – crown lift to 5m above the ground level of 4a The Mount; prune any remaining branches growing in close proximity to 2 The Mount back to suitable growing points to provide 1.5m clearance.
- T8 Lime – Crown lift to 5m above ground level (including the removal of basal growth); reduce canopy (height) back to previous reduction points. Please note timing condition 5 below in relation to the reduction.

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

5. The hereby approved reduction of the Lime shall only be carried out in late summer (late July-August) or December-January.

Reason: To avoid harm to the future health of the tree.

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

C.c. Mr P Knight, 4a The Mount, Caversham