

Mr S Matthews
5 Chiltern Heights
Caversham
Reading
RG4 5LA

Our Ref: 160273/TPO

Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440

Email: sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

17 March 2016

Your contact
is:

Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Matthews

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE OAK TREE AT 5 CHILTERN HEIGHTS, READING - T1 OF
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 4/10**

Thank you for your application of 15 February 2016, regarding the above.

During my visit on 15 March 2016 we discussed the work to the Oak and agreed some slight amendments to the proposals. I can confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your amended application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- T1 Oak - Crown clean (remove dead wood, broken/hanging branches, crossing/rubbing branches); crown lift to 5m through 360° by removing/reducing minor growth only and reduce branches growing towards the house by a maximum of 2m from the nearest extremity to the house.

You mentioned that you felt the health of the tree (gauged by the crown condition) had deteriorated over the last few years. It would be prudent for us to view the tree once it is in full leaf. Please can you contact late spring/summer to arrange this.

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. This decision is valid for two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses

3. 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 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 Hanson
Natural Environment Officer