

Mr P Small
30a Eastern Avenue
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Keith Townsend
Executive Director for
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4th June 2024

Your contact is: Andrei Nazare, Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Small,

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE CHERRY TREE AT 30A EASTERN AVENUE, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your notification of 23rd April 2024, regarding the above.

Further to your notification and subsequent e-mail of 2nd May 2024 providing additional photos, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- 1x Cherry tree - reduce lateral branches growing toward house by 1m and trim back all around (without changing the overall shape or 'touching major branches')

We normally seek to obtain clear specifications (i.e. reduction in metres), so in my 7th May 2024 e-mail I asked for clearer specifications in relation to the 'trim back all around' works. You didn't provide a response to my e-mail. However, your 2nd May e-mail states: *'to protect it somewhat against wind damage and generally tidy it up. I don't want to change the shape or touch major branches.'*

As the tree is not suitable for inclusion in a Tree Preservation Order, we raise no objection to the proposed works.

You also intend to remove the Ivy growing on the tree. To deal with Ivy you normally want to sever it at the base (creating a 2 inch gap) and allow for 1 season for it to wilt on its own. Then, it is safe to pull it down from the tree without damaging it.

The agreed works can now be carried out as soon as they can be arranged.

This decision is valid for two years from the date of this letter, after which it lapses.

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. 3. It is best to undertake the minor overall canopy reduction in mid-summer (July-August) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height and to minimise the chance of infection by Silver leaf (*Chondrostereum purpureum*).

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely,

Andrei Nazare

Andrei Nazare
Assistant Natural Environment Officer
On behalf of Sarah Hanson, Natural Environment Officer