

Mr N Jones
23 Maytree Walk
Caversham
Reading
RG4 6LZ

Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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Our Ref: PL/24/0986
Your Ref:

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9 September 2024

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Jones

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 23 THE MOUNT, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 1 August 2024, relating to the above.

Further to my visit of 9 September 2024, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

T1: Holly - Fell to just above ground level.

T2: Apple - Carefully reduce crown by 1-1.5m

T3: Pine - Reduce lowest laterals to south-east by 2-2.5m which are interfering with above Apple tree.

The reasons for felling the Holly tree are unclear. I noted its multi-stem form (not unusual for Holly) and dead branches in the lower crown, which could be removed. It otherwise appeared to be a reasonable tree, albeit not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order.

Conservation Areas are higher priority areas in our Tree Strategy for tree retention and planting. Hence if the Holly is removed, we encourage replacement planting to help maintain the canopy cover and verdant character of the Conservation Area.

In relation to the Apple tree, the reduction is taken to be a total of 1-1.5m (laterally), along with a height reduction, given its current small size.

With reference to the Pine, I assume the branches will be reduced post-reduction of the

Apple such that the amount of reduction required to clear the Apple can be better assessed. I assume you will ensure that an excessive amount of foliage is not removed from the laterals in question and that sufficient is left to sustain the branches.

The following additional works are taken to be to non-tree vegetation (the Laurel as it is a bush rather than a tree in this case) hence formal notice is not required:

T4: Laurel - Reduce in height by 2m, down to the height of neighbouring properties out building.

T5: Buddleia - Reduce in height by 2m, down to the height of neighbouring properties out building

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

The works can now be carried out.

Informatives

1. 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

2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However you are encouraged to give 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', please give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

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

Yours sincerely

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer

C.c. Mr Hayward, 23 The Mount
Karen Robertson