



Ms Alexander
Old Mill Tree Care
Heritage Trees Ltd
Unit 3B, Orchard Cottage
Thorney Mill Road
Iver
SL0 9AN

Keith Townsend
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: 231185/TCA
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
Email: andrei.nazare@reading.gov.uk

4 September 2023

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

Dear Ms Alexander,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO FIVE TREES AT BLENHEIM COURT, LONDON STREET, READING
- SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for your notification of 19th August 2023, regarding the above.

Further to your notification and accompanying local plan as well as my visit on 24th August 2023, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- T7513 - Sorbus - crown reduce removing up to 1m
- T4586 - Rowan - crown reduce removing up to 1.5m
- T4587 - Sorbus - crown reduce removing up to 1.5m
- T4584 - Sorbus - crown reduce removing up to 1m
- T7512 - Rowan - crown reduce removing up to 1.5m

You state the works are intended as general maintenance and to avoid any conflict of the trees with their surrounding environment. Specific to T7512 Rowan, you point out its crown encroaches onto the building at no. 121 London Street. Our records show that similar maintenance works have been carried out before, under TCA notification ref. 182241.

Given the proximity of the trees to 1-16 Blenheim Court façade and to 121 London Street building, the intended works are considered reasonable management and are, as such, agreeable.

During my visit I noted Ivy covers the base and/or reaches into the crown of some trees (T7513, T7587). Left unchecked, significant Ivy growth can hide defects on the trees' trunks and increases the sail area and weight in the crown, as such it should be severed at the base and allowed to wilt and fall off by itself.

The agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 23rd September 2023.

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. Prior to the severing of well-established Ivy at the base of the tree, it would be prudent to carry out an assessment of whether any of the stems of the Ivy are forming a natural brace above a suspected bark-included union.

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

C.c. Peabody Housing Trust, Ealing Gateway, 26-30 Uxbridge Road, W5 2AU