



Mr O Speakman
Tree World Services Ltd
Tree World Nursery
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Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
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Our Ref: PL/24/1567
Your Ref:

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20 December 2024

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Speakman

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TWO BEECH TREES AT 3 FERNDAL CLOSE, READING - PART OF G1 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 110/06.

Thank you for your application of 22 November 2024 regarding the above, with accompanying climbing inspection photographs showing the areas of defects noted.

As you know, this application follows one in August (ref 240913) which approved a reduction to T6, a crown lift to T7 and crown cleaning both (your trees number), alongside work to other trees on site. Following this approval, climbing inspections of these two trees in question has been carried out and cavities, decay pockets and squirrel damaged noted, as shown in the photographs provided.

The extent of cavities and associated decay /dysfunction evident from your photographs is sufficient to question the safety of the trees and it is difficult to see how work could be carried out to make them safe without significant harm to their amenity value and without causing future issues from the large wounds created to cut back to sound wood. As such, the felling, whilst unfortunate, is reasonable, particularly given their close proximity to the house.

Application 240913 approved the felling of 1 Beech tree (your T1). A replacement condition was not attached to the consent in that case due to the number of other trees remaining. This current application seeks the felling of 2 further trees, resulting in the total loss of 3 trees from the group of 8 in the front garden. As such, it is now considered reasonable to require placement planting, however, you will note that condition 3 only requires the planting of 1 replacement tree. The species is open for discussion, but we would expect a native or naturalised broadleaf species of an ultimate medium size.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to your location plan and the annotated photographs below (from the previous application):

- 2 No. Beech (T6 & T7 of application; part of G1 of TPO) - fell.



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. Following the felling of the trees authorised by this consent, one native or naturalised broadleaf species of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m in height (at the time of planting) shall be planted within the front garden during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest. The species shall be agreed with the Natural Environment Team prior to purchase and planting.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

Informatives

1. You are advised that, in accordance with Part 4, 17 (4) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, this decision is valid for one pruning operation (as per the approved specifications) to be undertaken within two years from the date of this notice, after which the consent lapses and a new application will be required.
2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood from a live tree: 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', you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.
3. 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

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:

Trees and Hedges
Room 3A Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Telephone: 0303 444 5000

E-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Website: [Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

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. Ms Parsons, 3 Ferndale Close