



Ms S Duckworth
Duckworths Arboriculture Ltd.
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Emma Gee
Executive Director for
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Our Ref: PL/25/0865
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 374294
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9th July 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Ms Duckworth

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. CHERRY TREE AT WEST FRYERNE, PARKSIDE ROAD, READING, RG30 2BY - T42 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 06/07

Thank you for your application of 11th June 2025, regarding the above.

Further to mine and my colleague, Sarah Hanson's visit on 23rd June 2025, I have the following comments:

In agreement with the Covering letter, 11th June 2025, 06750/2025, which you submitted with your application, it is apparent that two paving slabs (see Figure 1) have been lifted because of the root growth from the tree. The path in which the paving slabs are situated is in frequent use and presents a health and safety hazard to users of the path.

You have stated that you have lifted the affected paving slabs to expose the ground beneath, to find many fibrous roots which are not affecting the movement of the paving slabs. You have identified a wooded root (see Figure 2) that has formed a series of wooded nodules to be the cause of the displaced paving slabs. The growth of the nodules is causing pressure on the underside of the paving slabs, causing them to lift. You suspect that the nodules are formed from offshoots of the same root.

Your recommendations are that the affected paving slabs are to be lifted and that the wooded root and its offshoots, forming the nodules, are severed back to the edge of the two paving slabs. When relaying the slabs, you have recommended the slabs are laid on top of pH neutral sharp sand.

You do not consider the root severance to be significant and thereby it will not cause a detrimental impact to the health or stability of the tree, which is agreed with.

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 the annotated photographs provided and reproduced below:

- Sever the wooded root (see Figure 2) at the eastern edge of paving slab 2 approximately 4m from the base of the tree and in line with the grassed area. To fully remove the root, the offshoots of the roots underneath paving slab 1 will require severance. Any fibrous roots that are not directly impacting the paving slabs are to remain intact. Root severance cuts are to be made cleanly, using a sharp edge.



Figure 1 - Paving Slab 1 and Paving Slab 2



Figure 2 - Indicative Root (white line)

Upon visiting the site, it was apparent that trenching resulting in root severance, had taken place alongside a number of trees subject to the TPO, including the Cherry tree in question. The associated contractors are being contacted and dealt with, as a matter of unauthorised tree work. My colleague, Sarah Hanson, has advised Mr Murray to monitor the health of this tree in case the works have a detrimental impact on its health.

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

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

4. Tree work consents on land not owned by the applicant: It is strongly recommended that the owner of the tree be advised of any proposed works. The owner's permission must be sought if the tree works involve work past the boundary line. This consent does not in any way imply that this Council has informed the owner of sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.

5. Root Pruning: For the avoidance of doubt this consent is for root pruning sufficient to facilitate the repair of the path and not for pruning to the extent that the stability of the tree is compromised. Root pruning can affect the stability of the trees.

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/government/topics/trees-and-hedges)

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

Yours sincerely

Amy Daly

Assistant Natural Environment Officer

On Behalf of Sarah Hanson, Natural Environment Officer

C.c Mr Murray, West Fryerne