



Miss C Maynard
28 Russet Glade
Emmer Green
Reading
RG4 8UJ

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
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Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
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Our Ref: PL/25/0978
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 937 2458
Amy.daly@reading.gov.uk

13th August 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Miss Maynard

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 3NO. OAK TREES AT 28 RUSSET GLADE, EMMER GREEN, READING, RG4 8UJ - T5, T6 AND T7 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 18/02

Thank you for your application of 9th July 2025, regarding the above.

You had initially applied to fell T6 due to the large wound at the base of the Oak tree.

Further to mine and my colleague Sarah Hanson's visit of 7th August 2025, I have the following comments:

It was evident from our site visit that there is a large wound at the base of T6 (see Figure 1) exposing the cambium and sapwood of the tree. The bark also appears to be cracking in other areas at the base of the tree. Unfortunately, there isn't an option for remedial works and the basal wound is a significant enough defect to justify the felling of the tree as the tree's structural integrity is questionable.

It was also discussed on site that it would be appropriate to include any required work to the other Oak trees in your property which are also subject to the TPO, as part of the application. You proposed crown thinning the other Oak trees, as you expressed the trees impact the amount of available light to the garden. You mentioned that you intend to significantly reduce the height of the adjacent row of conifers (not subject to a TPO), which we believe will vastly increase the availability of light into your garden. We also informed you that crown thinning trees can cause reactive growth (dense regrowth) and would be somewhat counter productive as this growth would continue to block out the sunlight by increasing the density of the crown.

We then suggested some alternative works that would be prudent to include as part of your application and these were agreed.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application and amended on site, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the annotated photographs provided:

- T5 - Crown lift, through 360°, to 3m above ground level; reduce lateral branch growing south by up to 2m to rebalance the crown shape (see Figure 2)
- T6 - Fell
- T7 - Remove basal growth, through 360°, to up to 3m above ground level



Figure 1 - T6 Basal Wound



Figure 2 - T5 Reduction of Lateral Branch

As discussed during our visit, there is a requirement to plant a replacement tree for T6 - see condition 4 below. We mentioned the high incident of subsidence in the road hence replacement with a low water demand species would be prudent and at a suitable distance from the property. The tree species which would be appropriate for the setting both in terms of water demand and the native woodland character, when planted in a similar location to T6, is included within the replanting condition below.

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. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees, except on trees to be felled.

Reason: Spikes can cause extensive long-term damage

4. Following the felling of the tree authorised by this consent, 1no. *Carpinus betulus* (Hornbeam) tree of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m in height (at time of planting), shall be planted within the lawned area of the rear garden during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest.

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

4. It is best to avoid works in the period immediately before or during bud burst and leaf fall to minimise the effect on the long-term health of the tree

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-woodland/trees-and-woodland-in-conservation-areas)

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