



Mr N Cantell
Beechwood Tree Care Ltd
2 Playhatch Farm Cottages
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RG4 9QX

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
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Your Ref:

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8th January 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Cantell

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO VARIOUS TREES ON MORGAN ROAD PLAYING FIELD, READING SCHOOL, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 22nd December 2025, relating to the above.

Following an email exchange with yourself and my colleague Sarah Hanson, Sarah asked for clarity on the reasons for the proposed work as tree work in this area has raised public concern in the past. We therefore appreciated your reasons, to hopefully alleviate any concerns from the public that inappropriate pruning or felling is taking place. I note that the reasons for the felling and reductions are as follows:

T4 and T8 are causing damage to the wall, T8 in particular, T4 is very close to the wall and heavily squirrel damaged.

The Poplars in G4 are failing and more trees have failed recently, they're inappropriate for the situation and likely to continue to fail.

T1 and G1 is good maintenance in order to keep the trees in the longer term - G1 is heavily squirrel damaged and lots of branches have failed recently, the larger Poplar needs management in my opinion due to the proximity to the property and tennis courts.

Given the reasons for the proposed works above, I would agree that the works are reasonable to ensure trees are appropriately maintained in an area that is frequently used, to ensure health and safety risks that trees present are managed.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- T1 Maple: crown reduce by approximately 30% of leaf area which equates to approximately 1.25m of the radial crown spread and up to approximately 1m of the height.
- G1 Poplar/Lime/Maple/Silver Birch: pollard the Poplar by 8m; reduce the remaining group by 2-2.25m
- T4 Goat Willow: fell to ground level
- T8 Maple: fell to ground level
- G4 False Acacia/Poplar: remove all Poplar and Ivy clad stems

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

The works can now be carried out.

As you will be aware, trees contribute to the character of the Conservation Area and as such, these areas are a priority for tree retention and planting in our adopted Tree Strategy. Replacement replanting is therefore encouraged when removing trees in Conservation Areas and I hope this is something that is considered

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'.

3. 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 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 Symonds, Reading School