



Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
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Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Mr D Johnson
Arboricultural Contracts Manager
Reading Borough Council
(via email)

Our Ref: PL/26/0275
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
Sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

8 May 2026

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Johnson

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO FOUR WILLOW TREES AT LAUD CLOSE / ROSE KILN LANE - PART OF G5 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 2/05.

Thank you for your application of 2 March 2026, regarding the above, and subsequent Inspection Report of 20 March 2026.

Further to my visit on 20 March 2026, with my colleague Amy Daly, the poor condition of the Willow trees was noted, and their proximity to the watercourse. The proposed works are considered appropriate to prevent collapse into the watercourse and is consistent with that approved to the remainder of Willows in G5 on adjacent, private land.

For information, a public notice was erected on the bridge facing Rose Kiln Lane during the visit, as required. No public comments have been received.

In line with due procedure, the proposed works were considered at Planning Applications Committee on 29 April 2026, and members were in agreement with the proposals.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- 4 No. Willow - pollard to approximately 2m above ground level

As I have already advised, concern was expressed by Councillors about potential disturbance of rats during the works and the potential for these to therefore enter the adjacent housing estate. I will leave you to liaise with Environmental Protection as necessary - please note Informative 3 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. The approved canopy reduction shall be undertaken in mid-late Summer (July - September) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height or during the Winter months of December - January during the period of dormancy.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle and in order to avoid any unnecessary detriment to the tree as a result of the pruning work.

4. 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

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. 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

3. You are advised of the request by Planning Applications Committee that consultation with the Council's Environmental Protection Team should take place regarding the consideration of appropriate pest control measures, prior to the commencement of works

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

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer