

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 4 April 2025
My ref: CY/TPO/131/1977/250491



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Ms Sarah Duckworth
Duckworths Arboriculture Ltd.
Glebelands Bungalow
Mildenhall
Marlborough
SN8 2LR

Dear Ms Duckworth,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 131/1977

APPLICATION NUMBER: 250491

SITE ADDRESS: 19 SALMON CLOSE, SPENCERS WOOD, WOKINGHAM, RG7 1EG

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s) which was received and validated on the 28th February 2025.

I can confirm Wokingham Borough Council **consents with conditions**, to the following works, being carried out to tree(s) included in the above-mentioned Tree Preservation Order (TPO):

Approved Tree Works Single 8 of Area TPO 131/1977:

T1, Ash (T8 on TPO)

- Crown lift 4m shoots off trunks
- reduce shoots on lower trunk 1-2m to clear phonelines
- reduce regrowth on previous reduction points by between 2-4m to 1-1.5m above previous cuts and retain smaller live shoots to support canopy regeneration.

Reasons for proposed tree works:

The British Standard 3998 (Tree Work Recommendations) advises that: Once initiated, a pollard should be maintained by cutting the new branches on a cyclical basis. The frequency of the cycle should be decided according to site management objectives, species, age, condition and/or any product that might be required. Branches that grow after pollarding should normally be cut at their bases in order to encourage the formation of a knuckle after a number of cycles.

T1 (Ash) has been managed as a pollard on a cyclical basis with the last reduction undertake in 2017. Shoots from previous pruning cuts are now approximately 2-4m long and under 60mm diameter. Works are therefore recommended to continue to manage the tree within its

established pollarded cycle in accordance with industry guidelines and arboricultural good practice. Maintaining the size of new growth will also reduce the risk of branches falling due to the decay present at the previous reduction points. Cuts should be made 1-1.5m beyond the previous pruning points to ensure pruning cuts are kept small and to minimise the impact or the reduction works on tree health. The tree is in good health and is expected to respond well to the pruning operation.

Officer comments

The proposed works are considered routine maintenance and involve the removal of small diameter growth only and will not have any significant detrimental impact on overall tree health or adversely affect the character and amenities of the subject tree. They are considered reasonable to establish a routine pruning cycle for the subject tree.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **7th April 2027** and in the event of the works not being completed by that date, further consent will be required.
2. Work must be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998 – 2010 ‘Tree work - Recommendations’.

Reasons for conditions 1-2

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure works are undertaken in accordance with recognised arboricultural good practice(s).

Informative:

If you are aggrieved by any of the conditions attached to your consent, you may appeal to The Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Because of coronavirus (COVID-19), you currently can only make a planning appeal online. You cannot currently apply by post.

For more information go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-preservation-order-appeal-form>

Telephone: 0303 444 5570 or e-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your appeal should be received within one month of receipt of this decision or any such longer period as the Planning Inspectorate may allow.

You are advised that this letter is in respect of the Tree Preservation Order only and it does not imply that consent would be forthcoming from the owner of the tree(s) or any such other persons from whom consent would be required.

If we can be of any further assistance, please contact the Tree and Landscape Officer via development.control@wokingham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hannington". The script is cursive and fluid.

Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

Please note that your attention is drawn to the following information:

Bird Nesting Season and Presence of Bat Roosts

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and Countryside Rights of Way Act (2000), consideration must be given to the timing and type of tree work operations, to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting birds or bat roosts that may be present within the tree(s).

The Act makes it an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.

It is advised that all non-urgent major tree work and hedge cutting operations are undertaken at a time to avoid disturbing nesting birds during the breeding season (to which the bird nesting season is considered to be from March to July). Where bats are suspected to be present, it is recommended that advice first be sought from a licenced bat specialist and if appropriate, the relevant licence(s) be obtained before any major tree work or hedge cutting commences.

Further information can be found at the following:

DEFRA (Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs)
Tel: 08459 33 55 77 or by email at helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Website: www.defra.gov.uk/

Natural England
Tel: 0845 600 3078 or by email at enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk
Website: www.naturalengland.org.uk

Bat Conservation Trust
Tel: 0845 1300 228 or by email at enquiries@bats.org.uk
Website: www.bats.org.uk

Forestry Act 1967 and Felling Licences

If it proposed to fell a tree or trees greater than 5 cubic metres or sell more than 2 cubic metres of timber in any calendar quarter, a Felling Licence from the Forestry Authority may be required.

Please note that Felling Licences are not required to remove trees from domestic (residential) gardens. Where you are the landowner of large pieces of land with numerous trees, clarification from the Forestry Commission may be required as to whether a Felling licence is needed.

For more information on Felling Licences, please speak to the Woodland Officer at the Forestry Commission on 01296 696543

Further Information can be found on the Forestry Commission Website:
www.forestry.gov.uk