

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 27 December 2024
My ref: CY/TPO/20/1973/242932



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr Richard Westwood
Wokingham Borough Council,
Countryside Service
Dinton Pastures Country Park, Davis
Street, Hurst
Rangers Office
RG10 0TH

Place and Growth
Development Management Team

P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Tel: (0118) 974 6000

Dear Mr Westwood,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 20/1973

APPLICATION NUMBER: 242932

**SITE ADDRESS: FOX HILL WOODLAND, LAND OFF DORSET WAY, EMMBROOK,
WOKINGHAM, BERKS, RG41 3AL**

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to tree(s) at the subject site, which was received and validated on the 20th November 2024.

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 to Woodland 1 of TPO 20/1973:

G1, Hazel x 15 - Coppice.

Reasons for proposed tree works:

To undertake hazel coppicing in an area of Fox Hill Woodland, as part of the ongoing biodiversity improvement project with Friends of Fox Hill. The hazel stools are located within an area near the access from Dorset Way, numbering 15 and have been marked with orange forestry spray.

This area has been chosen due to the high density of hazel stools and thus the likelihood of providing an adequate open canopy to improve woodland flora. Invasive species of laurel and rhododendron within the area have been removed. Which has already caused an increase in abundance of woodland flowers and herb species.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **27th December 2026** 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'.
3. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees to be retained.

Reasons for conditions 1-3

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure the health, safety and visual amenity of the tree(s).
3. Climbing spikes can cause damage to trees.

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,



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