

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 22 April 2026
My ref: LA/CA/260595



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 - Wokingham

Dear Mr. Nathan Cantell,

**SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE WARGRAVE
CONSERVATION AREA
APPLICATION NUMBER: 260595
LOCATION: WILLOW LANE, WARGRAVE, RG10 8JD**

With reference to your notification which was received and validated on the [DATE], I am writing to advise you that Wokingham Borough Council raises **no objections** to the proposed tree works being undertaken as specified within the Wargrave Conservation Area.

Proposed works:

T1 Sycamore

- Form into pollard at approximately 4m

Reasons stated for works:

The proposed works are as recommended by consulting engineers engaged to support the WLRC manage and maintain Fidler's Bridge and are required in order to avoid unnecessary damage to the road surface and bridge that would arise from the tree collapsing - in other words this is not a cosmetic project, but one of necessity.

All resulting waste to be removed from site.

Officer comments:

The Council's Officer observes that the work is required in order to ensure future compatibility with the Site and the adjacent Fidler's Bridge over the Hennerton's Backwater edge. T1 is located along public footpath WARG10 and concerns around public safety for motorists, pedestrian, and waterway traffic given T1's confined location over both roadway and waterway.

The Council considers the proposed pollarding of T1 (Sycamore) acceptable. Cutting into large diameter branches may result in extensive loss of live material and cause multiple large pruning wounds which could impair the tree's ability to produce carbohydrates and sustain itself making it more susceptible to disease and decay. This would undoubtedly be detrimental to the overall health and visual amenity of the subject tree.

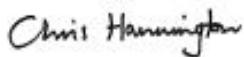
Additionally, the Officer observed a nest within T1 during the Site visit, which may or may not be in use during this nesting season. Works to trees during the nesting season (generally March – August) may result in disturbance to nesting birds. All birds' nests that are either in use or being built, eggs and chicks are protected by the 1981 Act. Nevertheless, works can take place to trees and hedgerows during bird nesting season after a thorough inspection has taken place on the site by a qualified specialist, e.g., tree surgeon or ecologist before any works commencing to ensure nesting birds or other wildlife are not disturbed. However, it is strongly recommended to undertake vegetation or tree works outside this period to prevent the risk of disturbing nesting birds or other wildlife.

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 date the consent lapses and a new Section 211 Notification will be required.
- 2) You are advised that this letter is in respect of the **Conservation Area 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 may 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

Applicant cc: Mr. Peter Symons, ICE Marketing Ltd, Henley Building, Newtown Road, Henley, RG9 1HG, peter@icemktg.co.uk
Mr. Bruce Maidment, Hon Treasurer, Willow Lane Road Fund, brandlimaidment@gmail.com

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