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Date: 10 April 2026
My ref: LA/CA/260541



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Place and Growth

Development Management Team

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Mr Giles Clarke
GPC Tree Surgeons
24 Denham Way
Maple Cross
WD3 9RN

Dear Mr. Giles Clarke,

**SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE REMENHAM HENLEY
BRIDGE CONSERVATION AREA
APPLICATION NUMBER: 260541
LOCATION: TOLL GATE COTTAGE, HENLEY BRIDGE, HENLEY ON THAMES,
WOKINGHAM, RG9 2LW**

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 Remenham Henley Bridge Conservation Area.

Proposed works:

T1, Willow

- Willow – Pollard back to previous points; cut back limbs over river by 1.5m.

Reasons stated for works:

Application: General maintenance to retain tree from wind loading or falling/ failing into river and causing issues with water ways etc.

On-site discussion: Improvement to homeowner's view.

Officer comments:

The Council's Officer observes that the work is required in order to ensure future compatibility with the Site and the adjacent river's edge. The Council considers the proposed pollarding of T1 (Willow) acceptable on the condition that the reduction encroaches no further than the previous pollard points. Cutting into large diameter branches further back than the original reduction points would result in extensive loss of live material and cause multiple large pruning wounds which would 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, during an 8 April 2026 site visit, the Officer observed construction and garden materials being stored and covering T1's root zone. These materials should be removed

immediately as they may causing damage from compaction or root disturbance. They also limit T1's access to water and oxygen, critical to growth. Disruption to the roots can result in decline, and changes to the growing environment (such as soil compaction) can stress the tree over time.

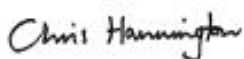
Finally, whilst the Officer did not observe any nests within T1 during the Site visit, works to trees during the nesting season (generally March – August) may result in disturbance to nesting birds. All birds' nests that are either in use or being built, eggs and chicks are protected by the 1981 Act. 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

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