

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 02 October 2024
My ref: CY/CA/242134



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mrs Virginia Rendle
10 Limefield Close
Earley
Wokingham
RG6 7XL

Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
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Dear Mrs Virginia Rendle,

**SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE SINDLESHAM
CONSERVATION AREA**
APPLICATION NUMBER: 242134
**LOCATION: ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH, BEARWOOD ROAD, SINDLESHAM,
WOKINGHAM, BERKS, RG41 5BN**

With reference to your notification which was received and validated 21 August 2024, I am writing to advise you that Wokingham Borough Council raises **no objections** to the proposed tree works being undertaken as specified within the Sindlesham Conservation Area.

Proposed works:

T1, Cedar of Lebanon

- Crown reduction, removing approx. 2m in branch length, to lesson end weight and shorten lever arm to prevent premature failure of buckling limbs as well as reducing the sail area
- Remove/shorten major deadwood to retain veteran features and valuable habitat
- Remove snapped/hanging limbs
- Clear majority of minor deadwood to lessen literal dead weight acting on limbs

Reasons stated for works:

A wonderful example of a veteran tree with a very striking form & character. Despite numerous, very large historic pruning wounds, no evidence of significant decay was found. The tree appears to have been a victim of its own success, in that it has such exceptional vitality for a tree of this age/size/life stage that it appears that one of the main stems failed under its own weight, snapping multiple other large limbs on the way down on the South side. The snapped ends of the limbs should be retained for habitat purposes.

The remaining limbs are at risk of similar failures. Fibre buckling is present on several stems, indicating that the sheer weight of the foliage combined with the very wide spread of the crown is producing a very significant force on the limbs. Given T1's location over a main road and well

frequented church carpark, sympathetic remedial work is required to mitigate the risk and retain the tree.

Officer comments:

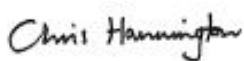
The Council considers that the proposed works are reasonable and necessary, and would not adversely affect the character and amenities of the Conservation Area and the serving of a TPO is considered unnecessary and inappropriate on this occasion.

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 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 signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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