

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 05 December 2024
My ref: TF/CA/242683



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mrs Jane Hutten
Keen Consultants
Timbers
Gables Road
Church Crookham
Fleet
GU52 6QY

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 Hutten,

SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE REMENHAM HENLEY BRIDGE CONSERVATION AREA

APPLICATION NUMBER: 242683

**LOCATION: HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA HQ, HENLEY BRIDGE, HENLEY ON THAMES,
WOKINGHAM, RG9 2LY**

With reference to your notification which was received and validated 23 October 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 Remenham Henley Bridge Conservation Area.

Proposed works:

T46, Lombardy Poplar:

- Fell to just above ground level; grind out stump.

Reasons stated for works:

This tree has been monitored for a number of years on suspicion it is infected with Honey Fungus. It's close neighbour, another Lombardy poplar, was lost to Honey Fungus in recent times.

Inspection this Autumn has revealed fruiting bodies of Honey Fungus (see Figures 1 and 2 on this plan) emanating from one of the main structural roots.. A similar scenario occurred on the poplar that was removed.

Given the location of the tree adjoining the riverside path, and that the area beneath the tree is frequented by guests during Henley Royal Regatta, the retention of the tree is unviable.

The intention is to remove the tree and plant a replacement in close proximity. Thought will need to be given to a suitable species that is more resistant to infection with Honey Fungus.

Officer comments:

The Council considers that the proposed works are necessary in regard to health and safety given the trees high target location 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,



Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

cc. Applicant: Ms Imogen Mercer, Henley Royal Regatta HQ, Henley Royal Regatta, Henley-On-Thames, RG9 2LY

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