

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 9 September 2025
My ref: TF/TPO/3/1951/251688



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Dear Mr Cantell

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 3/1951
APPLICATION NUMBER: 251688
LOCATION: 9 QUENTIN ROAD, WOODLEY, WOKINGHAM, RG5 3NF

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s), which was received and validated on the 16 July 2025.

I can confirm Wokingham Borough Council **consents with conditions**, to the following work being carried out to tree(s) included in the above-mentioned Tree Preservation Orders (TPO):

Approved works to W3 of TPO 3/1951:

T1, Acacia:

- Section fell to just above ground level; treat stump.

T2, Western Redbud:

- Fell to just above ground level; treat stump.

T3, Liquidamber:

- Fell to just above ground level; treat stump.

Reasons stated for works:

The trees in the rear are becoming too big for the area and have started to decline. The area has plenty of tree cover and therefore any loss of visual amenity will be minimal. The TPO put in place before the houses were built and it is clearer that it is no longer a woodland, but a residential area. We don't see it as unreasonable for the owner to manage/remove their small trees, given the small garden areas and potential size of the trees. W3 is described as an area of mixed woodland - and we feel that these smaller ornamental trees fall outside of this. T3 is an ornamental tree that was planted by the previous owner. The new owner would like to remove this tree to create more space for appropriate planting.

Officer comments:

The trees are situated within the boundaries of a private residential garden that now falls within the footprint of historic woodland TPO 3/1951. This designation pre-dates the development of the site for residential use. The context of the landscape has therefore materially changed, and the amenity function of the woodland TPO must be considered within its current setting.

The three trees proposed for removal, Acacia, Western Redbud, and Liquidambar are all non-native ornamental species not considered characteristic or supportive of the native woodland structure the original TPO was intended to protect. Their presence does not contribute to the ecological integrity or historic value of the woodland designation.

The trees are relatively small in stature and located well within the curtilage of private gardens. T1 and T2 are not readily visible from public vantage points and, as such, do not provide significant public visual amenity. If assessed individually, none of the trees would merit TPO protection.

Given their limited size, species, and location, the trees do not meet the criteria for ongoing protection either individually or collectively. Their removal would not result in a significant loss of amenity and would not compromise the remaining structure or character of the woodland area.

The works will not negatively impact the character, amenity, or purpose of the original woodland TPO and will allow for appropriate management of trees within a domestic garden context.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **09 September 2027** 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'. Ensuring all branches are taken back to a suitable growth point.

Reasons for conditions 1-2...

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure the health, safety and visual amenity of the tree(s) and ensure works are undertaken in accordance with recognised arboricultural good practice.

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 email to: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hannington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'C' and a long, sweeping underline.

Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

cc. Applicant - Kim Liston, 9 Quentin Road, Woodley, Wokingham, RG5 3NF

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