

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 19 November 2024
My ref: SCD/TPO/0445/1989/242450



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Dear Jane Hutten,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 0445/1989

APPLICATION NUMBER: 242450

**SITE ADDRESS: HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA SITE (TEMPLE ISLAND) HENLEY ON
THAMES RG2 2LY**

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to tree(s) located on Temple Island at the Henley Royal Regatta Site, Henley on Thames RG2 2LY, which was received and validated on the 26th September 2024, and following the Council's Arboricultural Officers site visit on the 18th November 2024. The trees were viewed from the adjacent riverbank only.

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

Approved Tree Works Area 1 of TPO 0445/1989:

311 Ash - fell.
312 Oriental Plane - remove deadwood in excess of 25mm diameter
318E Elm - fell.
318F Ash - fell.
318G Ash - fell.
318H Ash - fell.
318I Ash - fell.
318J Elm - fell.
318K Ash - fell.
318L Ash - fell.

Reasons for proposed tree works:

- T311 (Ash) has basal decay.
- Within Area 1 – the 2x Elm trees are dead. 6x Ash trees have Ash Dieback Disease.

Officer Notes:

Current management guidelines from Forest Research (Great Britain's principal organisation for forestry and tree related research) confirmed that a landowner is not legally required to take any particular action if you own infected ash trees, unless your country forestry or plant health authority serves you with a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN) requiring action. This is unlikely.

With the exception of felling for public safety or timber production, Forest Research recommends a general presumption against felling living ash trees, whether infected or not. This is because there is good evidence that a small proportion will be able to tolerate an Ash Dieback infection. There is also the possibility that a proportion of ash trees can become diseased, but then recover to good health. These trees would be valuable for research.

For these reasons the pre-emptive removal of Ash trees which are subject of a TPO would only be permitted where i) the woodland structure remains unaffected or ii) as part of a wider woodland management plan which includes replanting and/or iii) where individual trees are in advanced decline to a point that recovery is not considered viable or the where the structure of the tree is severely impaired as a result.

Wokingham Borough Council considers that the Ash trees identified for removal are not significantly affected by Ash Dieback but there is evidence of the disease being present in the crowns. In this location, it would be unreasonable to retain trees where their collapse or branch breakage would mean the tree falling into The Thames where it may cause an obstruction. Furthermore, as the disease progresses the trees would become significantly more hazardous for contractors to remove given the proximity to the river.

Wokingham Borough Council in our assessment of this application has also taken into account that there is a dense understorey of younger trees within the wooded area of the island which will succeed the felled Ash trees within the Area TPO over time thus maintaining the tree canopy cover and amenity of Temple Island.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **19th November 2026** 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'.
3. Replacement planting: Following the removal of T311 Ash as authorised by this consent, 1 no. replacement tree, shall be planted as close as reasonably practical to the tree removed, in a suitable location within the site.

The replacement trees should be a selection from the following species: Beech. Hornbeam, or Maple or another medium to large growing tree with the potential to grow to a similar size

as the tree which it replaces. Any alternative species of the replacement tree must be agreed in writing with the Borough Council prior to purchase and planting.

The replacement tree will be planted during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the Ash (T311), whichever is soonest following the permitted tree works.

The new tree(s) should be a minimum of 2m tall. Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations'.

Should the replacement tree be removed, die, or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Wokingham Borough Council Tree and Landscape Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reasons for conditions 1-3

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure the health, safety and visual amenity of the tree(s).
3. To maintain canopy cover in the Borough for the benefit of the local environment and amenity.

Informative:

If you are aggrieved by any of the conditions attached to your consent, you may appeal to The Planning Inspectorate (PINS). You are required to submit your planning appeal online.

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 development.control@wokingham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hannington". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Chris" and last name "Hannington" clearly legible.

Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

cc. Imogen Mercer, Regatta Headquarters, 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



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Application Reference:

SCD/TPO/0445/1989/242450

Please return this form to confirm that you have planted the replacement tree/s required under a tree replacement duty or planning condition.

Please post to:

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

Wokingham Borough Council
Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Application Number: 242450

I (*state your name*)

of (*state your address*)

.....

Location of trees (*if different from the address above*)

.....

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Telephone number.....

Email address.....

Confirm that (*state number of trees planted*) were planted

on (*state date*) in accordance with either the duty to replace tree/s or a

planning condition as imposed under the Town and Country Planning Act.

The tree/s planted are (*state species e.g. Oak*)
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.....
.....

Signed: Date:

If you need any help filling out this form please contact the Tree Officer on: (0118) 974 6000

Important Note:

If you do not return this form then the land charges register may not hold up to date records on the tree preservation order/s covering your property, which could cause difficulties if you come to sell your house in the future.

Any further comments:

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