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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 TREE WORKS IN A CONSERVATION AREA

Reference: H04-0587-24 **Date of Decision:** 15th August 2024
Applicant: Mr G Davies
10 Barnsdale Mews
Donington
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 4YF
Location: 10 Barnsdale Mews Donington Spalding
Description: Works to Trees in Donington Conservation Area

Detailed Description:

Notification to carry out works to two trees, a sycamore and an ash in the rear garden of 10 Barnsdale Mews.

The original Notification was to pollard the two trees, this was amended following the site visit of 26th July 2024, by the Trees and Nature Conservation Officer in which it was suggested:

Completely removing the ash which would give a 'breathing space' between the rear of the Applicant's house and the sycamore tree. The sycamore could then be selectively reduced and thinned out, to leave a tree which still had some visual amenity value, as opposed to pollarding it. Leaving some of the finer tracery of branches to shade the garden as required and leave it with a pleasing appearance. A removal of approximately 30-35% of the canopy could be achieved through reduction and thinning (includes removal of any crossing branches likely to rub). This would reduce the height to make it more compatible with the change in the use of the adjacent land and likely reduce pressure off the low forking structure at the base of the trunk. A 'rough indication' on the photographs of the works proposed to the sycamore is shown. There may be potential to bring in some of the lower branches of the sycamore a little tighter than as indicated in the first photo. Reduction works to a sycamore will promote vigorous regrowth; but if the cuts are each carefully taken back to an existing growth point, then the tree will tend to channel its energies into those which are existing, rather than by sending out something like five shoots where there were three

before, as in pollarding; or when branches are cut straight across without taking heed of existing growth points.

Further to the site visit on 26th July 2024 and discussion with the Trees and Nature Conservation Officer, on 12th August 2024 the Applicant confirmed in writing that 'yes we would like to go ahead with our discussion, of removing the Ash tree, and reducing the Sycamore in accordance with your recommendations.'

Please see the annotated photographs on file reference: H04-0587-24 which indicate the suggested reduction of the crown of the sycamore tree.

South Holland District Council has considered the proposal and has no objections, subject to any recommendation set out below;

- 1 That the proposed work is carried out within two years of the date of this letter of 'No Objection'.
- 2 Work is to be carried out in accordance with BSI 3998 : 2010, 'Recommendations for Tree Work'.
- 3 The resulting stump of the ash tree should be ground out to at least 300mm below ground level, to help reduce the risk of the stump harbouring decay fungi which could infect nearby trees, providing this can be achieved without damage to the roots of the adjacent sycamore .

Notes:

The necessary consent of all other interested parties should be obtained before the works proceed.

It may be advisable to obtain the opinion of a qualified arboriculturalist regarding the potential effect that the removal of the tree could have on nearby built structures.

Pruning of sycamores should take place in late summer or early autumn. All pruning works to sycamores should be completed by mid-January to avoid problems of sap bleed.

There is no requirement for replacement planting in this case.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) all birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is an offence to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. In the event of query please contact Natural England on Tel: 03000 603900.

Bats are protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and in the event that bats are living in any cavities in the tree(s), or if they are discovered

while the works are taking place, please inform Natural England on Tel: 03000 603900 before works proceed.



Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
South Holland District Council