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

Reference: H05-1128-21 **Date of Decision:** 15th December 2021

Applicant: Mr & Mrs S Stockford
The Manor House
Hallgate
Fleet
PE12 8NG

Location: Manor House Hallgate Fleet Spalding

Description: Works to Trees in Fleet Conservation Area

Detailed Description:

Notification to carry out works to trees within the grounds of the Manor House, Hallgate.

Please see the plan and photographs which accompanied the Notification.

'Yew A: Shaped and lower branches trimmed 1-2 feet maximum. As per picture they are hanging too low and need re-shaping.

Yew B: Shaped and lower branches trimmed 1-2 feet maximum. As per picture they are hanging too low and need re-shaping.

Yew C: Shaped and lower branches trimmed 1-2 feet maximum. As per picture they are hanging too low and need re-shaping.

Pine tree D: Branches overhanging road and any dead branches removed. As per picture it overhangs the road.

False acacia (Robina pseudoacacia) E: Branches overhanging road and any dead branches removed. As per picture it overhangs the road.

False acacia (Robina pseudoacacia) F: This tree is not surviving we propose to remove this tree and replace it with a weeping willow. As per picture this tree is not surviving.

Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*) G: Shaped top and sides by 2 feet. As per picture it needs shaping.

Silver birch H: 30% reduction. Reduction made sympathetically back to existing growth points. As per picture it is too tall and wide.

Sycamore I: 2-3m clearance from existing Coach House building. Potential 3m removal from height but only if it has been cut before. As per picture it has branches that are interfering with building.'

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 Should the false acacia identified on the plan as F be removed, the resulting stump of the tree should ideally be ground out/removed to at least 300mm below ground level, to help reduce the risk of the stump harbouring decay fungi which could infect nearby trees. (Alternatively there is often regrowth from the stump and roots of a felled false acacia so you may have a free replacement tree become established).
- 3 Work is to be carried out in accordance with BSI 3998 : 2010, 'Recommendations for Tree Work'.

Notes:

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

Please note that the removal of dead wood can be carried out without the need to submit a formal written Notification for works. The removal of dead wood is included in the description for completeness.

Please note that sometimes works to trees can not be carried out at the ideal time of the year due to the presence of nesting birds.

Major pruning works to yews should be carried out in May, although minor trimming may be carried out in August or September.

False acacias should be pruned in the mid to late summer period, as bleeding of sap from pruning cuts can be a problem at other times of the year.

Silver birches should be pruned in late summer and autumn as bleeding of sap from pruning works can be a problem at other times of the year.

In very general terms should a silver birch tree have been reduced before, the regrowth

will require regular pruning; similarly it should be pruned if there are specific reasons to reduce it due to structural faults to enable it to be retained; and sometimes like any tree they just have to be pruned, to remain in the limited space available. Unless very carefully pruned to existing growth points, pruning tends to encourage dense regrowth, and the tree can sometimes lose its dainty graceful appearance; so unless there is a real need; the less a silver birch is pruned the better.

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.

Should the false acacia identified on the plan as F be removed; in this case the duty of the landowner is to plant another tree, of an appropriate size and species, at the same place and as soon as reasonably possible.

It is recommended that the tree is replaced with either a further false acacia or a weeping willow as mentioned in the Notification, of at least 1.5 metres in height on planting, as near as reasonably practicable to the position of the original tree within a period of twelve months.

(Please note that false acacias are moderate water demand trees, weeping willows high water demand).

Please inform the Local Planning Authority as soon as replanting has taken place and indicate the position of the replacement tree. Section 207 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 empowers this Authority to issue a Notice formally requiring replacement trees to be planted.

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
Planning Manager
South Holland District Council