

BRACKNELL FOREST BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED REPORT

APPLICATION NO: 21/00333/TR5
OFFICER: Phil Gritten

DESCRIPTION: TPO 372 - Application to prune 1 tree

LOCATION: Land In Front Of 19 - 25 Holly Spring Lane Bracknell Berkshire

Week No	2/2021	Registered	07.01.2021	Expiry	12.01.2021
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SITE VISIT NOTES (separate sheet attached? Y / N)	DATE UNDERTAKEN	
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See case officer summary

CONSULTATIONS & REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

Consultee(s)	Reply Date	Consultee Comments
		Comments awaited.

POLICIES:

CASE OFFICER'S SUMMARY:

5 Day Notice 21/00333/TR5 - Assessment & Report 14.01.2021

Situation

This notification of intent to Fell a subject mature Sycamore, located within the notifier's property frontage, is based upon the visual concerns, represented by 2 pictures of the stem base (attached below) of what is ostensibly 2 trees. The larger subject is displaying significant sapwood death, characteristic of *Cryptostroma corticale*, Sooty Bark disease, a fungal infection capable of causing death of the infected trees. The subject location is designated as Woodland (W1) of Tree preservation Order (TPO) 372.

Tree Service Assessment

The supporting images indicate an historic open wound, extending to ca.40% of the diameter of the stem base and further areas of necrotic bark extending up the North side of the stem. There is evidence of wound occlusion around the periphery of the exposed structural timber and does not appear to extend to below ground level. Other than surface desiccation, the exposed structure, shows no signs of structural weakness. The smaller stem emanating from the south side of the base is displaying signs of Sooty Bark infection directly above a branch attachment approximately 600mm above ground level on the north side of the stem.

As part of this notification, a picture of the tree crown was submitted, the picture indicating the top, ca.4m, of the crown to be dead. This picture identical to a picture used to make a desktop assessment of the larger tree stem subject of this application as part of a prior 5day Notification 20/00337/TR5 which expressed no objection to fell on the basis the tree was dead, dated 11th December 2020.

For the avoidance of doubt, a site visit was made on the 8th January 2021. The Tree Service site assessment confirmed no imminent structural concern regarding the Sycamore located within notifiers property frontage nor the presence of a dead tree. The presence of the dead, ca.4m, top section of the larger stem being the only element that warrants a 5day notification.

The Tree Service acknowledges the potential for Sooty Bark disease to cause the death of the larger and the likely latent presence of this infection within adjacent trees of the same species.

Conclusion

The Tree service has no objection to the removal of dead top section of the larger stem indicated to be the tree on the right of the picture attached below.

As the larger stem is confirmed to relate to the same tree, subject of prior notification 20/00337/TR5, the 'no objection to fell' decision of the December 2020 notification is withdrawn. The applicant is therefore not at liberty to currently fell any Sycamore within their property frontage with Woodland designation W1 of TPO 372; please see informatives.

Informative

Sooty Bark disease can be lethal to Sycamore trees and therefore presents liability in the event of structural failure of dead trees or section of. Where such liability is of concern the applicant should engage monitoring of trees larger enough to raise health and safety concern. Clear pictures of the trees of concern taken from the same location at routine intervals would assist professional assessment and where necessary would be useful evidence as part of a future application to manage respective liability.

Tree Inspection: As standard advice, the Council suggest that residents who own trees within falling distance of highways and or adjacent property, have their trees inspected by a suitably accredited & insured arboricultural consultant at appropriate intervals. Your chosen arboricultural consultant or arborist will be able to provide you with a written report detailing the tree/s health and structure. Management recommendations (if considered necessary) should be based on the content of the report and could be used in support of tree work applications for protected trees.

Cryptostroma corticale: <https://forestpathology.org/canker/sooty-bark-maple/>

For continuity of the landscape character, provided by 'Woodland' designation (W1) TPO 372. The applicant is reminded that woodland designation orders protect all existing tree species, of all age and form, including saplings and seedlings whether planted or occurring as part of natural regeneration present and future. At the time of the Tree Service's site inspection, it was apparent that green waste arising from garden maintenance was accumulating within the notifier's property frontage subject to protected designation W1. This accumulation prevents natural regeneration and therefore further accumulation is to cease and existing garden waste is to be removed to allow natural regeneration as soon as practically possible, effective from the date of this notification.

CASE OFFICER'S CONCLUSION:

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RECOMMENDATION:

[For approvals state s106 requirements, conditions, informatives and summary. For refusals state reasons.]

Date of Recommendation: 14.01.2021

01. Situation

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Informative(s)

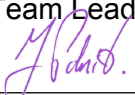
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Note: Under the BFBC's scheme of delegation this application has been considered in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998.						
Decision Notice to?	Parish Council		Compliance		LAO	Other Specify
Notes for WP Administrator:-					Date Legal Agreement Signed	
PI App Monitoring Check List		Yes / No	Temporary Register		Yes / No	Telecom Register Yes / No

CHECKED – Case Officer	DATE 14/01/21	Team Leader/Section Head 	DECISION DATE 14/01/21
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