

7 February 2022

Our Ref: 21037/01

Your Ref:

Alister Cunningham,
Tree Officer,
Buckinghamshire Council,
Council Offices,
Queen Victoria Road,
High Wycombe HP11 1BB

Dear Alister,

**Application to Undertake Work to Trees in a Conservation Area
at
Flint Cottage 7 – 8, Southend Common RG9 6JP**

We have been asked by Veronica Reinhardt, the owner of Flint cottage, to make an application on her behalf to undertake management and related work to trees located within the garden to Flint Cottage. This falls within the Southend Common Turville Conservation Area.

The house has been let for a number of years and this has caused the trees to become neglected. This came into focus recently when it was noticed that a Cedar close to the house was causing a retaining wall to fail. This tree was recently removed with the consent of Wycombe District Council.

To assist Veronica with the management of the trees on her property we have prepared a tree management and maintenance plan along with a tree management and maintenance drawing

covering the trees and hedges within the garden area. These are submitted as part of the application.

We undertook an inspection of the trees on 14 January 2022 to determine their condition and from this site visit have prepared a schedule of proposed tree and related work. This forms part of the management plan report.

At our site visit we noted that there is evidence of:

- cracks in the brickwork to the planter adjacent to the tree;
- cracks present to the eastern wall of the building on both sides of the ground floor house window closest to the tree;
- the cracks run up the building elevation and can be seen from ground level up to the first-floor window.

The crack to the left side of the window is illustrated below.



Close up photograph of the crack on the left hand side of a ground floor window



Photograph illustrating the crack extending up to the first-floor window.

We understand that this section of the cottage was built in the 1980s and that the underlying ground conditions are clay. We do not know how this part of the cottage was constructed; however, the ground conditions and the proximity of the Cherry suggest the damage to the property is constant with foundation movement.

The recent removal of the adjacent Cedar due to the damage it was also causing to the retaining wall adds some weight to support this.



Given the above, this application asks that consent is granted to remove the Cherry.

Veronica wishes to plant some new trees in the adjacent paddock, that is in her ownership, to replace the loss of the Cherry and Cedar. She has asked that we illustrate proposed species and a planting location on the Tree Management & Maintenance drawing.

We would welcome your thoughts on the choice of species and planting location.

Context photograph: T932 Native Cherry proposed for removal.

We hope that this application will meet with the Council's approval. Please do let us know should you have any queries, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

John W Platts.

John W Platts MLI