

WORKS TO TREES WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA: WORKS ALLOWED

Applicant:

Mr Robert Mullis
Church Gate
Almeley
Hereford
HR3 6LB

Agent:

Application code: 222935
Date of receipt of application: 6 September 2022

Grid ref: 333275 251600

Proposal:

SITE: Church Gate, Almeley, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR3 6LB

DESCRIPTION: The work consists of trees wholly within the curtilage of Church Gate, Almeley. The tree causing most concern is a very large ash tree, which is ivy covered and shows evidence of ash die-back. The intention is to remove the ivy in order to ascertain the extent of the die-back and, provided the tree is still viable, to reduce it in height by about a third. The conifers may also require a height reduction of about a third.

The COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL has duly considered your notice of intention to carry out the above mentioned operation(s) and you are **HEREBY NOTIFIED** that **the works are allowed**.

INFORMATIVES:

- 1 All nesting birds, their nests, eggs and young are protected by law and it is an offence to:
 - Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird
 - Intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built
 - Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird
 - Intentionally (or recklessly in England and Wales) disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird. The maximum penalty that can be imposed - in respect of a single bird, nest or egg - is a fine of up to 5,000 pounds, six months imprisonment or both.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to remove or work on any hedge, tree or building where that work involves the taking, damaging or destruction of any nest of any wild bird while the nest is in use or being built, (usually between late February and late August or late September in the case of swifts, swallows or house martins). If a nest is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural England and the Council's Ecologist.

2 It is an offence for any person to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any bats.
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a bat uses for shelter or protection. This is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not.

Under the Habitats Regulations it is an offence to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat. This is an absolute offence - in other words, intent or recklessness does not have to be proved.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 that works to trees or buildings where that work involves the disturbance of a bat is an offence if a licence has not been obtained from Natural England. If a bat is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural England (0300 060 6000) and the Council's Ecologist. Advice is also available from the Bat Conservation Trust Helpline on 0845 1300 228.

3 Herefordshire Council fully endorse the planting of replacement trees to maintain and improve green infrastructure in the locality and contribute to the counties biodiversity net gain.

4 The following British Standards should be referred to:

BS: 3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations

Built and Natural Environment Team
PO Box 4
Hereford
HR4 0XH

Decision Date: 4/12/2022

Signed: ...



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Elizabeth Duberley
Service Manager
Built and Natural Environment

This consent expires 2 years from the date of this decision.