

# Letter re Holmehill from Stirling Council Tree Officer

25 January 2019

The letter gives permission to remove 18 trees and to undertake surgery to 27 trees

From: Ingrid Withington <[withingtoni@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:withingtoni@stirling.gov.uk)>  
Sent: Friday, January 25, 2019 4:12 PM  
To: Bill Carman; Malcolm Roy  
Cc: planning support  
Subject: TREES, TREENQ-2019-006 TPO LD/TRE/2/78 HOLME HILL, DUNBLANE

Dear Mr Carman and Mr Roy,

TREES WITHIN TREE PRESERVATION ORDER LD/TRE/2/78 HOLME HILL, DUNBLANE

I refer to our site visit on 8th January 19, your 'Application for Works to Trees Protected by a Tree Preservation Order or in a Conservation Area', together with Tree Survey Report prepared by TD Tree & Land Services Ltd (dated 25th October 18) received on the 18th January 19 and request to undertake the following tree works:

Namely:

- Remove Tree 1120, Quercus robur, with large collum of Hart wood decay from ground level to 4m;
- Remove Tree 1130, Beech, has previously experienced huge historic wind loading resulting in dramatic northward lean. Large decay hollow in lower bole from 2m to 10m and new vertical cracking showing from 2m to 6m on western part of bole;
- Tree 1131 Beech, with large historic tear out at 6m north, resulting in a large wound, loss of structural integrity and unbalanced canopy. Remove deadwood. Rebalance crown and reduce to 20% to protect against further failure;
- Tree 1139 Beech, tree on top of wall, with exposed roots. Branch collar decay hollow in lower bole at 3m. Failed branch sitting up against tree. Remove deadwood and hanging branches. Raise crown 5m and balance lower crown to counteract the loss of the western limb;
- Tree 1141 Sycamore, cut ivy at base;
- Remove Tree 1158 Goat Willow, with large inclusion from ground level, with partly failed crown resting in adjacent tree. Hart wood decay;
- Remove Tree 1159 Goat Willow, with failed main stem- crown resting on ground. Dead.
- Tree 1160 Beech, large tree on the side of main public access road. Large buttress on all sides. Parcel degradation of cambium on lower bole. Kretzschmaria deusta from base to 3m on southern aspect. Remove deadwood/ hanging deadwood.
- Tree 1161 – group of 5 No Common Lime. Remove basal suckers;
- Remove Tree 1162 Norway Spruce. Failed tree resting in adjacent tree;
- Tree 1163 Beech. Multiple tear outs throughout canopy, resulting in several hanging branches. Remove deadwood over 10cm and remove hanging branches. Balance crown to counteract loss of canopy on western aspect;
- Remove 1164 Norway spruce. Historic crown loss has led to twisted self-equalizing form. Phalaeolus schweinitzii present on root plate.
- Remove 1165 Leyland Cypress. Two sections of the eastern crown have recently failed, leaving an unbalanced crown, with large wounds;
- Remove 1166 Lawson Cypress. Loss of eastern canopy has led to dramatically reduced structural integrity of the remaining canopy;
- Remove 1167 Cypress spp with almost no crown vigour;
- Tree 1168 Sycamore. Large multi-stemmed tree with well occluded unions. Remove large diameter major dead wood over track;
- Tree 1169 Elm. Remove poorly included eastern stem hanging in adjacent tree (union at base has failed);
- Remove 1170 Goat willow, windblown tree lying on adjacent tree;
- Remove 1171 Norway Spruce, with complete loss of upper crown reduced canopy vigour throughout tree;
- Remove 1172 Holly, which is dead;

- Remove 1173 Leyland Cypress, which has a significant lean towards residential area. Evidence of root plate movement at base.
- Tree 1174 Beech Removal several failed hanging sections of canopy;
- Tree 1175 Goat Willow. Remove dead hanging branches in lower crown/deadwood;
- Tree 1176 Common Lime (group of 3No). Remove basal suckers;
- Tree 1177 Sycamore, with hardwood decay hollow in lower bole at 1m. Raise crown to 3m and cut ivy at base;
- Tree 1178 Sycamore. Roots have collapsed wall and are undermining banking. Excessive lean to west. Raise crown to 3m and cut ivy at base;
- Remove 1179 Beech, mature tree with large buttress. *Amilera mellia* present in buttress roots. Several large limb failures and dead wood throughout crown;
- Tree 1180 Sweet Chestnut with *Meripilus giganteus* at base. Limb loss to east. Remove dead wood throughout crown and remove hazard beam over path back to suitable pruning point;
- Tree 1181 Sycamore. Cut ivy at base and remove where practicable;
- Tree 1182 Oak, remove deadwood;
- Tree 1183 Beech, with large decay hollow in lower bole from ground level to 6m. Major limb loss from lower canopy. Remove dead wood and crown thin/crown reduction by 30% to reduce sail effect;
- Tree 1184 Beech, with decay hollow at base of tree and good supporting reaction wood. Remove dead wood;
- Tree 1185 Oak, remove multiple hanging branches over path and some dead wood in lower canopy;
- Tree 1186 Beech, remove hanging deadwood/branches;
- Tree 1187 Sycamore. Cut ivy at base;
- Remove 1188 Sycamore, large boundary tree with *Kretzschmaria deusta* at base. Major secondary stem loss evident. Tree within target distance of dwelling;
- Remove 1189 Beech, wind-blown tree resting in adjacent Sycamore;
- Tree 1190 Beech. Raise dense lower canopy by 3m. Clean all hanging branches/dead wood and branch failures from the crown;
- Tree 1192 Oak. Remove large amount of dead wood from crown;
- Tree 1194 Oak. Reduce crown by 5m and remove hanging branch at 8m. To improve resistance to wind loading;
- Remove 1195 Beech, remaining stem of previously failed tree;
- Tree 1196 Oak, remove dead wood hanging branches;
- Remove 1264 Beech. *Kretzschmaria deusta* located at on lower bole from ground level to 4m. Significant decay area resulting in compromised structural stability of the tree;

The Council has considered your application and has decided to grant you consent subject to the following conditions:

1. Surgery work to be undertaken by a reputable contractor who is properly trained and equipped, insured with full public liability insurance cover (operating to BS 3998 : 2010 Recommendations for Tree Work, and in possession of a relevant certificate for tree work) is appointed to carry out the work safely and competently.

Under regulation 9 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER '98); the Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER '98) and as a tree owner; you have a legal obligation to ensure that any tree contractor that you employ carries a National Proficiency Test Council (NPTC) certificate of competency and or, Integrated Training and Assessment (LANTRA - ITA), and follow best practice guidance as recommended by the Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG guidelines 2003).

2. Great care must be exercised in carrying out this work to ensure that adjacent trees are not damaged directly or indirectly in any way.

Please note that if you do not undertake the work within one year of the date of your notice you will need to re-notify the Planning Authority. Any additional and new works or departure from this approval will also have to be notified.

Great care must be exercised in carrying out this work to ensure that other adjacent protected trees are not damaged directly or indirectly in anyway during the operations and complying with the Wildlife and Countryside (Scotland) Act 1981 and The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended in Scotland).

In accordance with the Management plan provided by TD Tree & Land services Ltd and as discussed at our site visit, I note it is intended to plant many native trees in the designated woodland areas during winter 19/20. These will include replanting/relocating self-seeded Beech trees from within the site and include replanting Beech trees bordering the access track. 18No mature trees removed in this application.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the Council's decision, you can appeal to the Department of Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA), 4 The Courtyard, Callendar Business Park, Callendar Road, FALKIRK FK1 1XR by writing within 28 days from the date you receive this decision.

In the meantime, if you have any other queries, or concerns about either tree care or protection, please contact me.

Regards,

Ingrid Withington  
Tree Officer (Part time: Tues/Wed/Fri)  
Development Management  
Planning and Building Standards

Stirling Council, Teith House, Kerse Road, Stirling Council, FK7 7QA T: 01786 233681