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**From:** Joanne Owen

**Sent:** 15 December 2016 08:14

**To:** Joe Robertson

**Subject:** RE: Tree Work Application 2016/93959

Hi Joe

Just to confirm we are happy to proceed with the work you have recommended.

Many thanks

Joanne

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**From:** Joe Robertson  
**Sent:** 13 December 2016 12:48  
**To:** Joanne Owen  
**Subject:** Tree Work Application 2016/93959

Hello Miss Owen.

As per my answer phone message.

I have now been out to assess your tree work application and the majority of the works is fine, in fact I'm happy to add to the pruning slightly to include additional works ( as listed below) which may add some flexibility for your tree surgeon to carry out works to help ease some of the issues you have described.

However the crown reduction for sky TV on the tree by the road is not something I could support. Reduction of the entire crown area, or reducing the height would be excessive and will only lead to long term issues. By way of explanation, because the tree has the rooting system to support its original crown size, after reduction it throws back on regrowth rapidly, this regrowth is never attached as well as the original growth and can be prone to failing. In addition crown reduction on more mature trees also promotes decay at the reduction points, adding to the long term health and safety issues associated with the regrowth. It also often disfigures the tree.

I am not sure how much you know about conservation areas and trees, but in brief the conservation area requires that 6 weeks notice is given before any tree work can be done. This is to allow the Local Planning Authority to assess if a new Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is needed to stop the work. In this case the tree in question is on the road frontage, so more valuable in terms of the public visual amenity the conservation area and TPO legislation seeks to protect and as above I can not support the work. Therefore, under the tree protection legislation a new TPO is required.

That said, I don't want to serve a new TPO on your neighbour's trees if it is not required, so as an alternative that I would be happy to look at would be: amending your application (if this is acceptable to you) to remove the reduction aspect of the work and allow pruning in line with the rest of the trees. Given the application would then no longer seek to reduce the tree no TPO would be required.

The proposed works that I would be happy to issue would then be as follows:

*All trees located along the boundary, as required:*

- crown lift to give 4-5m ground clearance
- Reduce higher branches back to a suitable side branch, or to an appropriate target pruning point on the stem, as necessary to give 2-3m clearance from the fabric of the house.
- Crown thin removing no more than 20% of the crown area.

(A crown lift meaning - removing branches from the ground upwards to give a set clearance. Crown thinning meaning- removing branches from throughout the tree to thin the density of the leaf area allowing dappled light through)

If you are happy for your application to be amended, as described above, please confirm by return email by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

I hope the above makes sense, if you would like to discuss the matter further I do not have an external line and I am not on the Council's Link system so you can either email me or let me know a few times when it's best to call and I'll try and call you.

Thanks