Kirklees Council
Planning and Development Service
PO Box 1720
Huddersfield
HD1 9EL

Enquiries to: Jack Dunn
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michael palmer,
equinox tree services
equinox tree services
12
Strike Lane
Skelmanthorpe
HUDDERSFIELD
HD89AY

Date: 04-Nov-2024
Our Ref: 2024/93081

Dear Sir/Madam

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
Town & Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012

TREES AT: Shepley Methodist Church, Lane Head Road, Shepley, Shepley, Huddersfield, HD8 8DB

Further to your notification dated 29-Oct-2024 regarding trees at the above address which are located within the SHEPLEY Conservation Area. In pursuance of its powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012, I confirm the Council has no objection to the work as specified in your application.

This work should be carried out in accordance with BS 3998 (2010) - The British Standard for Tree Work, and must be carried out within 2 years from the date of your notification, or a new notification will be required.

Please note a copy of the application documents can be viewed on line using the planning application search facility on the Council's main web page:

Kirklees Council Trees

Yours Sincerely

Jack Dunn
Tree Officer

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Note: Consent for the tree work specified in this letter relates to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and is in principle only. If the work to be undertaken relates to trees growing on land owned by a third party, permission must be obtained from that third party before undertaking any work which requires access onto or over their land

Note: Under section 1 and 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended): it is an offence to intentionally disturb or destroy any bird nest whilst it is in use or being built; or, to recklessly or intentionally damage or destroy a bat roost or, to cause disturbance or harm to bats.

Note: Roads & Street Works Act 1991: It is possible that part of or all of the above works may present a safety risk to the public. IT IS IMPERATIVE that before any works commence advice on sign requirements and/or traffic control is sought from our NRASWA Officers (Sean Fisher 01484 225426)

Note: In no way does the Council accept any liability for damage to property or persons caused as a result of the work here authorised. Tree surgery can be very dangerous and the Council recommends strongly that a competent tree surgeon using appropriate safety equipment and with appropriate public liability insurance is employed.

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Guidance Notes
Choosing a Tree Work Contractor
(Tree Surgeon)

The Council does not approve or promote any private contractors, nor does it affiliate itself with any specific companies. If any company says they are Council approved or trained you should seek clarification as to which Council it is referring to and if you are not satisfied check with the authority concerned.

There are schemes running which produce a directory of approved contractors and companies. The Arboriculture Association and Trust Mark are examples of such schemes.

If you are looking for a company or contractor to carry out tree work, tree pruning, felling etc. you should consider the following:

- City and Guilds/NPTC Qualifications (National Proficiency Test Council). The company should be able to produce certificates and a photo ID card (See example ID card below) to show that they have the relevant qualifications for the operations they are intending to carry out. There are separate qualifications for using a chain saw, felling different sized trees, climbing trees, operating a chain saw in a tree etc. It is the individuals who hold the qualification, so unless they are undertaking training, employees need to be qualified for the tasks they do.

  Example City and Guilds/ NPTC Photo ID card:



(Sample ID card provided by City and Guilds September 2015, the appearance of cards issued before this date may vary slightly but are still valid)

- The company should be able to show you certificates of insurance for public liability and where the company has employees, employee liability as well.

- The company must work to the British Standard for Tree Work, BS 3998 and should be able to quote this if you ask them what the British Standard is. If you propose to carry out work to a protected tree with consent from the Council, this will be a condition of the approval.

- Ask for a written quotation, a reputable firm will be willing to do this. It would be advisable to get quotes from several different companies.

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- Membership of an arboricultural organisation does not necessarily guarantee a contractor's level of competency, which will depend on the organisations terms of membership. However it does indicate that they are keeping up to date with industry changes. Examples would be the Arboricultural Association or the International Society of Arboriculture.

- The company should be able to show you copies of Health and Safety documents for their work type, risk assessments, inspection records for their climbing and rigging equipment (where applicable) etc. This will indicate that they are compliant with national Health and Safety requirements.

If you are seeking advice on a tree's health or safety, you are advised to look for:

- A company which holds professional indemnity insurance. This gives a degree of security should there be an adverse incident as a result of their comments.

- A formal qualification in arboriculture, forestry, horticulture etc would give an indication that they have the required technical knowledge about tree biology and mechanics to be able to advise you correctly. There are many different formal qualifications available examples of a few would be: National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ), Diploma or a Degree.

- A person who holds LANTRA Professional Tree Inspector. This shows that the individual has passed an assessment to show that their tree inspection skills are in line with the national standard. Holders of this award will be able to show a photo ID card.

If you are engaging an arboricultural consultant to produce a tree report for example, as a minimum they should hold the above mentioned insurance and a formal qualification.

Useful contacts:
Kirklees Council Trees The Arboriculture Association Trust Mark

Please note that the information contained in this guidance note is for general information purposes only. The Council endeavours to keep the information accurate and up to date but makes no representations or warranties of any kind to this effect. You should note that the websites referred to in this guidance note are not under the control of the Council and their inclusion within it does not necessarily imply a recommendation or endorsement of any views expressed within them.