

Application ref: 2023/5334/T
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Date: 1 February 2024

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Custom Cutters Tree Specialists Ltd.
Oak Farm
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Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 (as amended)

OBJECTION TO SECTION 211 NOTICE OF WORKS TO TREE/S IN A CONSERVATION AREA

Address:

St Peters Vicarage
53 Belsize Square
London
NW3 4HY

Description:

REAR GARDEN: 1 x Lime (T1) - Fell to ground level.

The Council has considered your notification of intended works to trees dated 20 December 2023 and decided to **OBJECT** for the following reasons:

Reasons for objection:

- 1 The s.211 notification is for the removal of a lime tree from the front garden of a residential property that is situated within the Belsize Park Conservation Area. The large, mature lime tree is highly visible from the public realm from both the north and south sides of Belsize Square and Belsize Park. It is considered to significantly contribute to the character and appearance of the conservation area. The tree provides a high level of amenity to public and contributes to the streetscene. The tree is one of the largest and is an integral part of a green corridor that extends approx. 150m along the north side of Belsize Square. The tree provides habitat potential and has been maintained by repeat crown reduction.

The justification submitted for the removal of the tree is:

"The tree roots are lifting up the concrete stairs and paving creating a hazard. The tree is in close proximity to the building. The client wishes to have the stairs repaired for health and safety."


While it is acknowledged that the roots appear to be lifting paving slabs and steps, this is not considered to justify the removal of the tree. Landscaping repairs could be made and it is considered highly likely that there is a design and/or engineering solution that allows for the tree to be retained and the steps reconstructed.;

The consultation responses demonstrate there is considerable public support for the retention on the tree.

A tree preservation order has been served to protect the amenity the tree provides and the character and appearance of the conservation area.

A Tree Preservation Order has been served on the tree/s and no work should be carried out without the prior consent of the Council.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DPope', is positioned above the name of the signatory.

Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer

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