

Delegated Report

Officer		Application Number(s)				
Liam Vincent		2024/0089/T				
Application Address						
27 Oseney Crescent, London NW5 2AT						
Proposal(s)						
FRONT GARDEN: 1 x Sycamore (T1) - Remove new growth back to previous points of reduction. REAR GARDEN: 1 x Holly (T2) - Fell to ground level.						
Recommendation(s):		Part grant, part refuse works to Tree(s) in CA				
Application Type:		Notification of Intended Works to Tree(s) in a Conservation Area				
Consultations						
Adjoining Occupiers:		No. notified	11	No. of responses	1	No. of objections
Summary of consultation responses:		<p>The Council received one response to this notification, which is summarised as follows:</p> <p><i>The plan to fell the holly tree should not go ahead, as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it will have a damaging impact on local biodiversity, ecosystem services like flood mitigation, and the joy the tree provides to the neighbourhood.</i> <i>is a native species, which supports a variety of insect and bird species</i> <i>is one of only a few native tree species remaining in this row of back gardens (the other main native species in the area being lime trees</i> <i>Felling this tree would deplete an already declining wildlife corridor.</i> <i>The tree enhances the beauty of the area, being visible from the street and from gardens on the crescent and Caversham Rd.</i> <i>it is also a visual barrier between the opposing windows of properties on Oseney Crescent and Caversham Road</i> 				
CAAC/Local groups* comments: <small>*Please Specify</small>		None				

Assessment

A s.211 notification has been submitted to prune a Sycamore tree back to previous points of reduction in the front garden and to fell a Holly tree to ground level in the rear garden of a private residence on Oseney Crescent, situated within the Bartholomew Estate Conservation Area. While the repeat pruning of the Sycamore is part of its ongoing regular maintenance, no reason has been given for the removal of the Holly tree.

The Sycamore tree is very plainly visible from Oseney Crescent and Busby Place. The repeat pruning of the tree is part of its ongoing maintenance cycle and will be contributing to the retention of the tree in the setting it occupies.

The Holly tree is plainly visible from Caversham Road, and at least partially visible from Oseney Crescent and Busby Place. As an evergreen species It makes a significant and positive contribution to the verdant character and appearance of the conservation area, adding vital colour to the local landscape during times when the nearby deciduous tree species are out of leaf, and as a native species also supports many bird and insect species, enhancing local biodiversity.

The removal of the Holly tree would result in a significant reduction of the amenity that the tree provides in the local environment.

The Council does not object to the repeat pruning operation of the Sycamore.

The Council objects to the removal of the Holly tree, and it is recommended that a tree preservation order be served to protect the amenity the tree provides, to preserve the character and appearance of the conservation area.