

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2023/4700/T	Bevis and Susanna Sale	19/03/2024 10:01:05	OBJ	<p>We strongly object to Origin Housing's application for 23 Jeffreys Street, and other associated applications for 11,17,19 and 29 Jeffreys Street, to prune the trees in the Jeffreys Street gardens that border the housing association's car park.</p>

General objections:

1. Origin Housing has completed the application forms stating that they own the trees. All the trees in question are legally owned by residents of Jeffreys Street, who have not been consulted, and have not applied for these trees to be pruned. No trees have been properly identified by diagrams, as required for applications concerning trees growing in a conservation area.
2. Origin Housing's previous justification for comprehensively cutting all the branches of these trees facing the housing association was that they deposited sap on residents' cars. Origin Housing has since built extensive wood and plastic roofed car ports to prevent this.
3. The trees in question predate the building of the housing association by many decades, and their presence was clearly taken into consideration by the architects. They are situated at the edge of the car parking area at the furthest distance from the Origin Housing buildings. They cannot therefore be said to have a large impact on light levels in the housing association flats. On the contrary, they provide screening to protect the privacy of both the housing association residents and Jeffreys Street residents.
4. Previous, repeated, severe pruning by Origin Housing tree surgeons has rendered these trees lop-sided, and has not been in accordance with best practice for the health of the trees. These trees are now more vulnerable to the strong winds increasingly experienced due to climate change.
5. Camden Council places a high priority on environmental issues. These trees are a valuable green resource in an intensively built-up area. They are important for air filtering, what remaining wildlife there is, and are a valuable part of the Jeffreys Street Conservation Area.

Specific objection:

Due to the failure by Origin Housing to properly identify the trees they want to prune, we are concerned about one tree in particular. It is one of two willows growing in the garden of number 23 Jeffreys Street. This tree leans substantially over our garden (no 25) providing shade and screening, and adds to the habitat for wildlife. In 2021 tree surgeons employed by us, and the owner of the tree at 23 Jeffreys Street, determined that the tree had a fungal infection. To make it safe two thirds of the trunk, with all attached branches, were removed. It now has a very small number of branches left and the removal of any of these could kill the tree. We strongly object to any pruning at all of this leaning willow.

We hope Camden Council's tree officers will consider the points we raise.

Bevis and Susanna Sale