

**From:** Brian Sommerlad  
**Sent:** Monday, July 15, 2024 9:29 PM  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Application for works to trees covered by a TPO

Re Application 2022/0419/T

Despite the fact that two previous applications had been rejected, I was very disappointed to hear that yet another application has been made to fell the two beautiful mature plane trees in the garden of 8 Doughty St. WC1N 2PL

The argument is that they “have to be removed” to protect the Egyptian Exploration Society building and its contents.

An independent engineer’s survey has shown that the effect on the building is not significantly progressing and can be managed by relatively simple and inexpensive building measures. Removal of the trees and death of the roots is likely to cause soil movements which may be much more damaging to the EES and may affect other buildings in the area.

They are the most impressive trees in this crowded part of London. They are enjoyed, not just by nearby residents, but also by the many visitors to Bloomsbury. Children and staff in nearby St George’ Church of England Primary School can see the trees as they walk to school along Doughty Mews and from the school when they get there.

As a doctor, I can’t believe that the council would sanction the destruction of these effective pollutant reducers. Trees should be being planted, not pulled down. It would take more than 100 years to replace these wonderful trees.

They encourage a variety of bird and other wild life.

I urge Camden Council to reject this re-application. As the Mayor of London has said, these “individual veteran trees should be given protection as, once lost, they can never be replaced”. Hopefully Sadiq Khan can also discourage this act of vandalism. It is unnecessary and destructive.

I have also written to the Mayor of London.

Brian Sommerlad