

From: Barbara Dohmann KC
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 4:06 PM
To: Planning
Cc: Liam Vincent
Subject: Application ref 2024/4305/T

Dear Mr Vincent, dear Tree Planning Committee, dear Supporting Communities Directorate,

On 18 September, pursuant to Application ref 2024/2757/T which had been granted, tree surgeons performed works at 40 Frognal, felling a Robenia, reducing a Sycamore and a Yew tree (2x3 m pruning and 10% thinning were permitted) and reducing a central, beautiful cherry tree by at least the permitted maximum (when 2x2 m would have better preserved the shape and beauty of that tree). The applicant was not present during the works but the tree surgeons were pressured to cut at least the maximum by a supporting neighbour who wants more sun on his garden.

Only 2 weeks later this further application is launched.

The background is a steady reduction of tree cover in this Conservation Area, and a dire reduction of habitat for wildlife. We used to have a dawn chorus, it is gone. Even last year we still had two pairs of blackbirds, only one pair was present this year.

The Cypress which it is proposed to reduce by one third is the remaining intact evergreen habitat for birds. It is also a magnificent, healthy tree which provides green cover in winter. It does not on any reasonable grounds call for reduction, let alone the proposed massive reduction.

As to the Sycamore, it is rightly not suggested that this tree is dangerous to life or property or is itself diseased. This application does not meet felling criteria in a conservation area.

Still more serious, the application form seeks permission to 'poison' the Sycamore (after felling). I implore the Council not to permit this. The danger to adjacent trees and to wildlife is obvious. The need for such an extreme measure is absent, as is any explanation by the applicant for permission to do

this, or indeed any of the proposed works. I believe that there are no grounds consistent with having chosen to live in a Conservation Area.

The applicant repeats the declaration that she is the owner of the trees, but she is not. It is difficult to understand why she feels it necessary to repeat this incorrect statement, which also appeared in her previous application, 2024/2757/T.

I am loathe to refer to personal matters, but my physical and mental health have been affected by this relentless effort to remove and reduce trees which have been part of the joy of my home environment for over 55 years.

I request that this further application be denied.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Dohmann

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