

Liam Vincent Tree Officer, London Borough of Camden
Specification of proposed works to LA trees, covered by TPO C975 2011

Question 7: Identification of trees and description of works

1. Introduction:

The works are to enable the undertaking of the Orchard Project, as agreed upon by Stakeholders including Jessica Gibbons (Head – Parks & Open Spaces), Fitzroy Park Residents Association (FPRA), Fitzroy Park Allotments Association (FPAA), City of London Corporation, Highgate Society, Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee, Ward Councillors and local users of the Fitzroy Park lane. The aim of this project is to find an approach for this project that addresses the following needs:

- a. the needs of the Allotments to reduce shading;
- b. the needs of local residents and lane users to maintain the Country lane feel of the site;
- c. the needs represented by Hampstead Heath, CAAC and Highgate Society to maintain the visual amenity value the current tree canopy allows, and
- d. the objectives of the project itself to enhance the biodiversity value of this site.

2. Specification of works:

- a. The removal of trees 27, 28, 29, 33, 37.5 and 38;
- b. The reduction and thinning of tree 30, and planting of a wild service tree to be donated by the City of London in the hedge as a future replacement. Tree 30 to then be removed in 2017, thus allowing 5 years for the establishment of the replacement tree;
- c. The retention of trees 31 and 34 and the lifting of branches from over the allotment plots to good arboriculture standards;
- d. To 'veteranise' tree 32 to mitigate current structural risks posed by a cavity. This operation is to be achieved by using a coronet cutting technique at approximately 5m above ground level, immediately above the large open cavity in the stem; a decision to be made on whether branches over the road will be kept during works;
- e. To retain trees 35 and 36;
- f. To crown lift trees 35 and 36;
- g. Elms and hawthorn to be retained in hedge and to be retained along the Fitzroy Park road side of the fence; the FPRA to manage the elms on the road side in partnership with FPAA, this will include some removal and reduction to allow light to reach the new hedge;
- h. A native hedge to be planted inside the fence line, to be managed at 1.5 metres by the FPAA;
- i. 4 to 5 Orchard trees to be planted within the area, where light conditions allow, 2 of these to be suitable replacements for trees 27 and 28. A suitable replacement or 'like for like' tree is considered to be a species that would grow in a reasonable time frame to provide a canopy similar to that of the current sycamores;
- j. 2 to 3 fruit trees to be planted in the hedge;
- k. Hazel Coppice to be planted in the lower half of the area;
- l. Wildflower and bulbs to be planted throughout the project area, and
- m. All works to be completed by a LB Camden approved supplier – in this instance the term contractor City Suburban Tree Surgeons.

3. Map

