

Dike, Darlene

From: Savkin, Tanya [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 April 2014 13:14
To: Planning
Cc: Savkin, Tanya
Subject: Application Comment 2014/2661/T 51A Hollycroft Avenue London NW3 7QJ

Dear Sir/Madame,

I studied the materials presented to the council and strongly object to the proposed removal of four lime trees on 51A Hollycroft Avenue. Whilst I understand that the trees have pushed away the wall separating two properties, the removal of the trees should not be considered the solution to this.

I bought my property because of the surrounding trees and the peace and quiet they create. I believe that a lot of other owners in the area did so for the same reason. The removal of these tall, magnificent trees (approximately 9-11m height) will make a significant impact on the landscape and will ultimately drive the price of the properties down. There is a reason why this is considered a conservation area. We don't have many large trees in the area left and those which are left represent a significant value. They have been in existence for many years to reach this level of maturity and should be allowed to be present. If the trees are cut, my property will have light coming from central London which I find disturbing. Without the trees views of the houses on Ferncroft Avenue will be banal. My privacy will be greatly affected. Cutting trees may also trigger more similar actions in the area, already affected by various alterations to fit in playgrounds and tennis courts over the past years.

Other, perhaps more expensive, options should be considered, such as an alteration of the fence. Only one of the four trees (T1) is subject to rot and perhaps should be cut. It is not obvious to me from the survey report initiated by the property owner that the other three trees are unhealthy to the point of the need to be cut down. I would suggest that the second opinion should be considered, i.e. someone employed by the council to conduct another survey.

If the trees are lost the owners of the surrounding properties are bound to lose money. Just as it costs money to adapt walls it costs tenfold to my investment to keep its value. People buy tranquillity, greenery, privacy and wildlife which will be damaged in this case.

As an additional, obvious, argument, trees are necessary for wild life and environment. We have a large population of birds and small animals in the area to take care of.

Most of owners in my block live abroad and cannot have the chance to air their views. Naturally they would want the majestic trees to remain.

Yours faithfully

Tanya Savkin
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