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**From:** Stephen Nathan QC [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 March 2015 21:08  
**To:** Planning  
**Cc:** Whgara secretary [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Planning application 2014/7925/A

Dear Camden Council,

I write as Chairman of **West Hampstead Gardens and Residents Association (WHGARA)** to express our members' strong opposition to the application for the Farmer's Market to have a banner, advertising the market, which is attached to two trees, both of which are supposed to be protected by a tree preservation order.

A meeting of WHGARA was held on 24 February 2015 and the meeting was unanimous in its opposition to this application.

There are several sound reasons for WHGARA's opposition:

1. The banner or advertisement is to be fixed permanently to two trees which are part of the "green scenery" of West Hampstead. We have all too little greenery at street level around the Network Rail station.
2. The trees are supposed to be protected by a preservation order and to grant permission allowing them to be used as the upright fastening poles for an advertisement of the small market (however worthy in principle) is the very opposite of what the preservation order really means. Apart from anything else, there is bound to be some damage to the trees: it is inevitable.
3. West End Lane has more than enough street clutter consisting of advertisements: this is yet another of the very kind that Camden's policy is to prevent. It should be prevented.
4. The market operates one morning each week: a permanent banner on trees is not necessary, let alone (for the reasons given above) desirable.
5. To allow such a banner to be set up and fixed to the trees sends out an extremely bad "message" to all, when those who live in West Hampstead want to improve our environment – and not make it worse.
6. The design of the banner is quite dreadful.
7. The previous history of the market licensees – their failure to remove what was supposed to be just a temporary banner - indicates that this new application should be rejected. Such a failure can only, one may suppose, have been a deliberate act of omission.

Stephen Nathan QC  
Chairman – WHGARA.

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