## MICHAEL CHESTER & PARTNERS Consulting Civil and Structural Engineers 8 Hale Lane London NW7 3NX tel 020 8959 9119 fax 020 8959 9662 mail@michaelchester.co.uk

Our Ref: 15018

Pam & Patrick Nolan 71D Fitzjohns Avenue London NW3 6PD

19th May 2015

Dear Mr & Mrs Nolan,

## 47 FROGNAL, LONDON NW3 - tree in front garden

As requested I am writing to confirm my observations and comments about the tree in the front garden of the above property. Directions are given as if standing at the front of the property looking towards it.

The tree in question is a Birch, some 10 high, growing in a slightly raised bed to the front right of the drive. It is growing some 200 to 300mm from the face of the garden wall to No.49 Frognal.

Growth in the root bowl of the Birch has pushed out on the wall of the planter and the resulting expansion forces have caused a wide crack to form in the brickwork and there are indications that the roots are disrupting the drive. The Birch is not yet fully mature and there is little doubt that further growth will worsen this damage. Such growth could, in time, also cause the garden wall with the neighbour to become unstable.

My view is that the only way to protect the drive and the garden wall is to remove the tree; I understand that you are taking Arboricultural advice in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

**Duncan Mercer** 

for and on behalf of Michael Chester & Partners LLP