# r.howorth & co.ltd.

# chartered surveyors chartered arboriculturists



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3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015

Millbridge Group c/o Peter Thomas 51% Studios 1a Cobham Mews London, NW1 9SB

Dear Peter

#### Re: Tree Protection - 23a hampstead Hill Gardens, London, NW3

Further to my inspection of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and with regard to tree protection for the proposed construction works at the above property, I wish to report as follows.

Please note all orientation is given as if facing from the front.

### **Existing trees**

There are two trees which are of a size and proximity to the works to require consideration.

These trees are T1 - a recently planted replacement Cherry tree to the front right and T2 - a bay tree to the rear right. Both these trees are in the adjacent gardens of No.25.

The Cherry tree T1 is an approximately 350mm girth tree with a 1 metre wide canopy and height of 3 metres planted this spring as part of the planning approval requirements.





The rear right Bay tree is a multi stem tree with a crown spread of around 1.5 metre in the construction zone area and height of 5 metres. The canopy away from No.23a and remote from the construction zone is similar at around 1 metre spread.

There are several small shrubs including Elder and Fatsia species in adjacent areas. These are too small for inclusion in this report.

#### **Arboricultural implications**

#### T1 - Cherry tree

It is proposed to rebuild the existing boundary brick wall to the front as an external wall to the new house. A fence will be erected 1 metre from the wall to allow access for the bricklayers to carry out the construction.

This protection fence will be 2 metres away from the newly planted Cherry tree. As the root ball of the tree is around 600mm radius, the root zone will not be compromised and the fence will be removed before the tree roots extend further.

Once construction works are completed, the tree root zone will be the same as it was prior to the works and therefore there will be no loss to the potential root area.

## T2 - Bay tree

This tree is situated close to the existing concrete car park to No.23a. The proposed patio area is to be on the same footprint as the existing concrete.

On this basis, there will be no change to the rooting area.

It is proposed to prune the overhanging branches. The pruning should comprise of the removal of minor branches to a max diameter of 50mm as overhanging the work area. The work is to be carried out by an Arboricultural Association approved contractor.

This work will stop any construction damage and the extent of the pruning should not damage the future health of the tree as the pruning is reasonably minor.



It is proposed to position a fence close to the boundary to avoid any damage to the tree stem and rooting zone.

#### **Tree Protection**

The fencing will be as per BS5837 and formed of diagonal scaffold poles driven into the ground with vertical scaffold uprights with heras fencing or similar firmly fixed. No signage noting 'no access' will be required as the trees are on the neighbours land.

#### **Arboricultural Method Statement**

The pruning to the bay tree is to be undertaken in line with current best practice and carried out by an Arboricultural Association approved contractor.

Please consider the above and if you wish to discuss further, please do contact me.

Yours sincerely

Robin Howorth, MRICS MICFor, M.Arbor. A.

**CHARTERED ARBORICULTURIST** 

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