



Permission has been sought to remove two conifers and reduce the crown of the lime tree at the rear of 104 Fitzjohn's Avenue. I object to the felling of both of the conifers and to the reduction in the crown height of the lime tree to the rear of the building on the grounds stated below

Conifers.

I would strongly object to the conifers being cut down. These trees have been in position for the last 20 years or so and provide a habitat for a great many birds and other wildlife. We have seen these ourselves throughout the years we have lived here with song birds, tits and robins nesting in them. My children are distraught by the idea of these trees being removed and my son is at times inconsolable. It is affecting his emotional state of mind and he continues to ask me of their fate every day. We see these from our balcony and every day we watch the birds flying in and out of them. It provides a small part of nature in a very built up area.

The lower part of the trees have already been cut and this should give the owners of the garden enough light. The top part that is remaining does not affect their light in any way and therefore there should be no reason why the conifers cannot be left.

However large or small they may be, they provide some modicum of assistance against the pollution that is so very evident in Fitzjohn's Avenue. My son has a severe dust/pollution allergy and has been very sick with this and now has the anxiety of the prospect of the trees being felled. Not a single tree should be allowed to be cut down and, on the contrary, people should be encouraged to plant more trees. Those existing should be allowed to remain whole. They are being removed only because they do not fit into someone's planting scheme. We love those trees and feel very strongly that they should stay. It was explained by your tree officer that anything above the diameter of a coke can is conserved. These two conifers measure 33cm and 51cm in circumference, are well established and have a right to live and stay.

They also provide screening for us from the massive development which is happening across the road

We also object to the reduction of the large lime tree to the rear of the premises:-

1. Fitzjohn's avenue and its environs is a very polluted environment. The roads accommodates a great deal of traffic all day. The traffic is at a standstill for two long periods of each day. The pollution is extremely evident and at times it is hard to breath. The air is in no way "clean". Considering the number of people who live here and children who are schooled in this area, every single tree needs to be preserved in it's entirety to reduce this hazard. My son has a severe allergy exacerbated by pollution and I would encourage anything that would lessen this factor.
2. The trees provide the area with it's character and beauty. There are relatively few places in London like Hampstead and one of the reasons is that it retains a lovely balance between building and nature. These particular large lime trees are a real blessing and need to be looked after
3. These particular trees provide habitat for numerous birds, insects and animals. The trees always have nests in them and over the years we have watched the young develop and fledge.

4. I have heard owls in these particular trees and have seen bats feeding in the immediate vicinity of the trees. Are these areas where bats roost not protected areas?

5. The trees also provide a wonderful leafy outlook in an extremely urban area and provide a great deal of privacy from without.

Since the visit by one of your officers, some small branches of the tree to the rear of the house have been cut.

We all love these trees and could not see any way for them to be cut back or cut down.

These are our objections. Please do not allow this to happen. My son has had enough to deal with and I fear that this could affect him more than you may realise.

Sheela de Lacey.