

From: Donna Sartain [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 August 2016 19:25
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to planning application 2016/4237/T.

Dear Sir,

We have received notification of intended works to a tree.

We object to the proposed felling of the Birch tree located at 51 Belsize Park Gardens, London, NW3 4JL, front garden.

1. We rely upon the report served in support of the Tree Protection Order on 27 August 2014 in that the tree continues in good condition as noted and has "a long safe useful life expectancy".
2. The report also notes that retention of the tree is not inconsistent with keeping boundary walls in safe condition. To this we would add that:
 - a. The boundary wall with 49 Belsize Park Gardens has been successfully repaired this year and is in good order.
 - b. The boundary wall with the highway has been rebuilt this century and continues in good order.
3. The tree is not only a visual amenity but also a wildlife habitat. It has long provided a perching and foraging habitat for a number of garden birds including: Great Tit, Coal Tit, Blue Tit, Goldfinch, Goldcrest and others. It is to be noted that Greenfinches are more common visitors of late which may be a sign that habitat has been lost in other areas of the neighbourhood.
4. Recent changes to the streetscape do include losses of mature trees. Within sight of our home, this year alone, this includes the felling of a Sycamore at 38 Belsize Park Gardens and a Eucalyptus at 63 Belsize Park Gardens.

In conclusion we would ask that you retain the birch tree as a beautiful asset to the conservation area.

Tim Price and Donna Sartain

Freeholders, lessees and residents

Flat 7, 51 Belsize Park Gardens.