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R11020/GP/KMS

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John Levite
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Dear John

59E BELSIZE PARK GARDENS, NW3

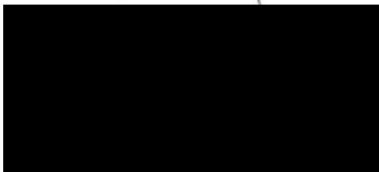
I am writing concerning the False Acacia tree in the rear garden.

This tree is located at a distance of approximately 4m from the rear bay. The bay is severely damaged and foundation subsidence caused by the extraction of moisture from the shrinkable clay by the tree roots is a likely contributing cause. The trial hole located against the bay, excavated recently, has confirmed a 0.5m deep footing on shrinkable clay.

The tree is currently young with a height of 5-6m and could grow to a mature height of 18m. The NHBC guidelines for building near trees recommend a foundation depth of the order of 2m in this situation.

I strongly recommend that the tree is removed whilst young in order to minimise the risk of subsidence to the nearby buildings.

Yours sincerely



G PELENTRIDES