



SJ Stephens Associates

ARBORICULTURAL, LANDSCAPE & MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Mr Ian Gilbert
Faraday Property Management Ltd
52-54 High Holburn
London WC1V 6RL

12th May 2017

Dear Ian,

Re: Plane tree by garages

As requested, I inspected the plane tree (T37) on 26th April.

The tree is showing good vigour and reasonable crown structure. There is one dead broken branch – c120mm diam by 7m in length, suspended in canopy – and I understand a larger limb recently broke out.

I would not be in favour of crown thinning. Although this might reduce wind resistance as a whole, it would be likely to increase stresses on individual remaining branches, making it more likely that further limbs break out, and leave sizable pruning wounds with a risk of decay.

Crown reduction, rather than thinning, would certainly reduce the likelihood of further branch break out, however this is such a fine specimen that any crown reduction should be kept to a minimum.

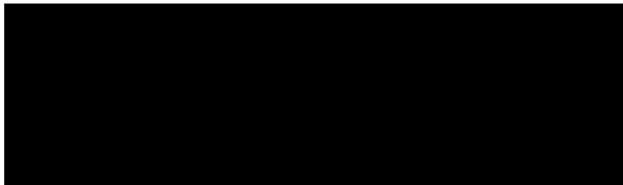
I therefore recommend minor crown reduction, achieved through removing end weight from the most extended branches. This will create a more uniform crown shape, without compromising amenity value. At the same time any dead, broken and hanging branches should be removed.

Branches removed should be taken back to forks/suitable growing points, with all works undertaken to the standards set out in BS 3998:2010 British Standard recommendations for Tree Work. Permission will be required from the Local Planning Authority, before this work is undertaken.

I attach some photos, which I hope will help.

If you require any further information, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Stephens
Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant
MA Oxon, Dip Arb (RFS), MArborA, CEnv, MICFor

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