

| Application No: | Consultees Name: | Consultees Addr: | Received: | Comment: | Response: |
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| 2017/5426/T | Barry Fox | 60 Gilling Court Belsize Grove | 01/11/2017 16:33:41 | OBJ | <p>Application 2017/5426/T lodged 28 September 2017 with Camden Council seeks permission to fell to ground level a Lime and an Ash in the front garden of Gilling Court. The Application declares that there is no TPO on the trees. But the supporting Arboricultural Report contradicts this by saying "Yes" there is a TPO. This inspires no confidence in the applicant.</p> <p>The managing agents for the property, London Block Management, made comparable contradictions in a previous application to fell trees in the garden of Gilling Court ref 2017/0827/T</p> <p>Moreover the agents LBM have not been diligent in alerting residents of Gilling Court to this new application. No notice about the application has been posted for residents in the common parts of Gilling Court. The only notice was sent to flat-owners in a Leaseholder Newsletter on 15 September, and 75% of the residents in Gilling Court are rental tenants who are unlikely to have seen what was sent to often remote landlords.</p> <p>The Newsletter refers only in vague terms to an un-named loss adjustor appointed by un-named insurers with unsubstantiated reference to having "identified the cause of the subsidence as root-induced clay shrinkage...(and) recommended removal of the lime tree at the front of the property". There was no mention in the Newsletter note of removal of an ash and only vague warning that "they will be addressing this matter and will approach the Local Authority to obtain the required permission to do so".</p> <p>The firm Application to fell two trees was lodged only 9 working days later, so the agents must have been in possession of far fuller facts than the vague information they included in their Newsletter. They have taken no steps since publishing the vague newsletter to provide flat owners and residents with fuller facts or alert residents and flat owners to the formal Application.</p> <p>Although I currently live in Gilling Court I learned of the Application only by seeing a street notice.</p> <p>This lack of diligence and transparency echoes the previous application to fell trees at Gilling Court ref 2017/0827/T. So again I must call on Camden to refuse the application, at least until flat-owners and residents of Gilling Court have been better informed and given better opportunity to comment on something so important as felling trees – with or without TPOs.</p> |