
From: Tania Guadalupe - [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 February 2018 15:22
To: Planning; Lester, Robert
Subject: Opposing to planning Application number 2017/7050/P

Hi Robert,

Ref planning Application number 2017/7050/P Ground Floor excavation of basement on 53 Howitt Road, NW3 4LU.

I read the news that my neighbor is applying for a permission to excavate the basement and I am very worried that the building will fall or be very compromised when the excavation begins. If you could see the building you would notice that the building is already sloping due to the underground movement from all the basement conversions that have been made on the street.

I think the ground where the foundations were laid is mostly clay, and when these basements are being excavated the house is moving down to the left! You can see with your naked eye that the house is now leaning towards the neighbor 51.

The clay ground has affected other basement conversions, that are going on, at this moment, on the street, I noticed that the basement from the house in front of 53 Howitt Road has been excavated and is being converted. Right through the middle of their job, two big cracks appeared right and left, on their window's ledge, on the first floor, and you could see that the house sank a bit right in the middle. If someone came they will see that they patched the window ledge of the first floor on both sides to cover the crack but as the house moved down, it can never be placed straight again and slopes a bit towards the center of the house.

I am worried that on 53 this will be even more severe, because the house has started to sink down already due to the ground subsidence, due to the ground movement that other basement constructions have caused, to an extent that is now clearly leaning towards the neighbor. If you placed a ball inside my flat, it would just roll over, the drawers are now opening by themselves due to the slope. I had to place a piece of wood at the end of my cabinets to avoid the drawers opening. This was not like this when I moved to this house 20 years ago.

The house is a historic listed building on a conservation area. I think the structural integrity of the building will be further compromised due to the underground excavation and I would like to object to the consent for this application as it might affect the structural integrity of the building and once it does it cannot be fixed.

There are also other impacts on my life, I am worried because I am very allergic to dust, I have to use a prescribed nasal spray daily due to my allergies and the dust will make it much worse and can cause my Asthma to flare up. Although I understand that my health is not really a priority on a planning development, the dust from one year of work will affect my health so much I am scared. There is also the noise, they intend to work every Monday to Saturday for one year... This means we will not be able to sleep late on our Saturdays which is the only day that we do not have to wake up early as on Sundays we go to church so we have to be up early and over the week we work and my daughter goes to school. I also have two small white fluffy dogs (Maltese), they would get so dirty and there is the hazards of having nails and things that could injure them on the site.

Thank you very much for your time reading this and any help on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,

Tania

Tania Guadalupe
Resident at 2nd Floor Flat
53 Howitt Road
Belsize Park
NW3 4LU