

Delegated Report

Officer

Tom Little

Application Number(s)

2018/2805/T

Application Address32 Fellows Road
London
NW3 3LH**Proposal(s)**

(TPO REF. 32H - T4) FRONT GARDEN: 1 x London Plane - fell to ground level.

Recommendation(s):

Refuse Works (TPO)

Application Type:

Application for works to tree covered by a TPO

Consultations**Adjoining Occupiers:**

No. notified

12

No. of responses

1

No. of objections

1**Summary of consultation responses:**

This application should be thrown out as it fails to admit it is in a conservation area - which a simple search on Camden's own website easily proves.

Furthermore, while I admire the applicant's choice of using a toddler to draw the tree, this and the lack of a photo is frankly insulting and doesn't show the height.

The tree is part of a row in a conservation area - trees in neighbouring gardens have been pollarded, while this tree of the same/similar age has clearly been neglected for many years.

I could understand if they'd applied to re-pollard the tree, but to fell it totally would be a crime against the health of those in the neighbourhood. Trees are our lungs and we simply cannot allow people to fell them because they won't look after them.

Furthermore, it is in a row and would destroy a valuable visual asset in a conservation area. The Tree Protection Order is there for a reason and should be respected.

CAAC/Local groups* comments:

*Please Specify

Assessment

The plane is highly visible from the public realm and it provides a high level of visual amenity within the public realm and makes a positive contribution to the character of the conservation area. It would appear to be in good health and have a significant safe useful life expectancy.

The application alleges that the tree is implicated in vegetation related building damage at 32 Fellows Road. No evidence has been submitted to substantiate this claim. Evidence should include: Trial pit/borehole logs, identification of roots, identification of shrinkable soils below foundations, crack/level monitoring demonstrating seasonal movement as well as an indication of the extent of the damage.

It is recommended that the application is refused to preserve the visual amenity the tree provides and protect the character of the conservation area.