

SJ Stephens Associates

ARBORICULTURAL, LANDSCAPE & MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Smithers Purslow



6th December 2019

Attn: Vanessa Tate

Dear Vanessa.

Re: Ash tree growing adjacent to 32 Arkwright Road

Further to my site visit on 26th November 2019, I am pleased to attach a sketch plan and some photos of the ash tree (T1).

This tree is growing immediately adjacent to the boundary wall between Nos 30 and 32 Arkwright Road and 3.7m from the corner of No32. It is 17.5m in height with a crown spread of approximately 7.5m. The tree has a swollen base which is completely hollow, with openings to the north-east (shown in the photo attached) and to the west. The residual wall is only approximately 100-150mm and the cavity extends 820mm through the base. Although the tree has been reduced in the last 2-3 years, there is a risk of the stem failing at the hollow.

This boundary wall is collapsing, partly as a result of the stem and root growth of the tree, and needs totally rebuilding. This will be extremely difficult without causing root damage, which will further compromise the tree. In addition, there is a high risk of the tree dying through the ash dieback disease in the next 5-10 years.

The tree is providing some amenity benefit, however this is reduced by the fine mature plane tree, T2, in the garden of No30. This has far better crown shape and is an impressive tree which will be seen to greater effect if T1 is removed.

In my opinion there is a risk of the Ash (T1) failing and, since it has a limited amenity value and a reduced life expectancy, it should be felled. Since the area is within a Conservation Area you need to make an application to Camden Council.

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

Yours sincerely,

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







